

# Historical Events of Du Quoin

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Main Street in the 1880s Looking North West

by  
Charles H. Hatfield  
1934

Transcribed and Illustrated  
by  
Robert R. Morefield  
2005





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Pinckneyville, IL 62274



## Foreword

Charles H. Hatfield put together the history presented here publishing it in the Du Quoin Evening Call in 1934. I have been aware of the material most of my life as my mother had saved many of the articles that appeared in the paper. Further research recovered the rest of the articles. I then transcribed the articles making as few changes as possible. Only a few format changes were made, but I attempted to keep the articles as written by the author. Mr. Hatfield tells about himself in his preface but I will add that he was a businessman operating a business on North Division Street.

Having collected a large group of historical photographs on the history of Du Quoin over a 25 year period I had enough images to use with the history to illustrate Mr. Hatfield's work. While the history only covers a period from the beginning of Du Quoin to 1934, I felt the it would be interesting and informative to most. At the beginning of each article I have listed the date of the article as it appeared in the Du Quoin Evening Call.

Robert R. Morefield  
4 January 2005



# HISTORICAL EVENTS OF DU QUOIN

BY  
CHARLES H. HATFIELD

## PREFACE

# 1 September 26, 1934.

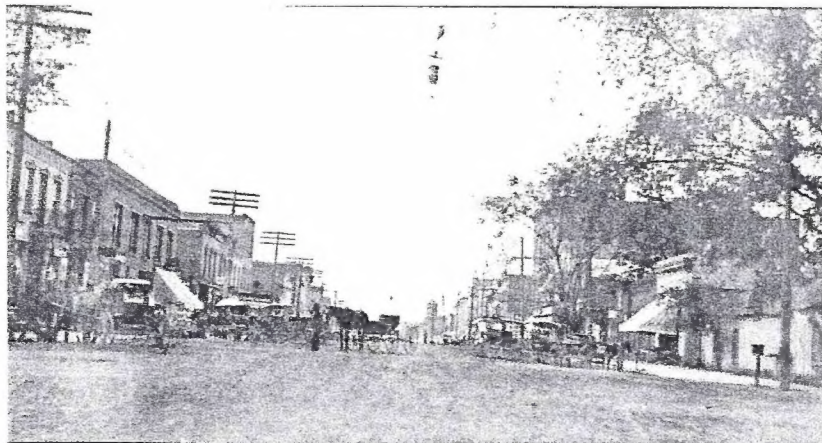
In fulfilling a pleasant task of writing the history of Du Quoin, Illinois, I feel it my duty to state the causes which led me to undertake it and the principles which have guided me in carrying it to a conclusion. My first impulse was a desire of my own to have such a history, but I felt my inability to procure sufficient data for a complete and authentic record. I afterwards met H. B. Jones of North Washington street and he suggested that I undertake the task. I partly consented to make the effort. At another time I met Edward Flynn, who had been contributing articles of the lives of a number of our citizens identified with the mining industry, and he mentioned the same proposition to me. I knew that I could at least promise to do my best, believing that he who does the best he can may expect to reap some satisfaction, if not reward.

I have reason to be thankful that I entered upon the pleasant task, and in spite of obstacles, I have persevered in it.

If the following pages in way fulfill the object with which such a history should be written they will bring to mind many other incidents that the reader may recall with pleasure. This work should "add sunlight to daylight by making the happy, happier."

But whether this story brings past days to mind with pleasure or whether it is received with criticism, nothing rob me of the deep and constant pleasure I have enjoyed during the hours I spent upon it. I have tried to be impersonal, but some names need to be mentioned in order to make the record more complete.

I take this opportunity to thank those who have contributed incidents and data: Mrs. D .A. Morris, Walter Kimzey, George H. Center, Mrs. Laura Cole Pope, Dr. C. M. Brookings, John C. Gibson, Miss Margaret Hinckley (Santa Maria, California), Clarence C. Hatfield, (San Diego, California), Rev. W. M. Maxton and Dr. J. T. Leigh.



East Main Street at Washington Looking West about 1912





# CHAPTER I

## OLD DU QUOIN

Before beginning the history of Du Quoin, let us go back a hundred years, to try to do justice to our ancestral home---Old Du Quoin.

In 1832 Mr. Rodney Bowlin--father of Honorable John A. Bowlin who was chosen as a democratic representative to the legislature of our grand old state, and who stood loyally "by the guns" for the election of Hon. John M. Palmer to the United States Senate in that memorable "101" campaign--moved with his family from Smith County, Tenn., to Perry County, Illinois to a settlement then known as Nine Mile Prairie, and built a log house on Burbank Hill. In those pioneer days the families were large and John A. Bowlin was one of a family of seventeen brothers and sisters.

The oldest sister, Jane Bowlin, married Jonathan G. Clark, grandfather of George T. Clark, 518 E. Poplar street, Du Quoin. They lived in a house built in 1833. That house is now occupied by a member of the Seifert family and is at this time more than 100 years old.

In 1853 the families of G. S. and E. N. Smith, Major Bradford Skinner, Benjamin Sprague, George Hinckley, Mr. Frazier, and others, came from New York state.

Mr. George S. Smith was born in 1823 and his brother, E. N. Smith, in 1830, in the town of Hatfield, Mass. They traveled by boat on the Ohio River to Shawneetown and overland to the present site of Old Town, where there were only a few scattered houses, no school, and no churches. Other eastern families soon followed. The state being new (1818) and this southern portion being only thinly settled, with more families coming in from other states, a small hamlet began to grow and soon the then Du Quoin, Illinois came into being.

During the years that followed and long before the opportunity offered it self for the beginning of the work, a Miss Eliza Payne of Hadley, Mass., cherished and talked of plans for a Female Seminary to be established at some outstanding Mission. The idea was presented to the "Boston Ladies Society" for the promotion of Christian education, "and in 1852 the "Society" sent her to then thriving village of Du Quoin. Three months after her arrival, Miss Payne sent for her helper, Miss E. Reynolds. It was before the time of railroads in Southern Illinois and these ladies came down the Mississippi River from St. Louis to Chester and overland from that city.

As a result of their ceaseless labor in soliciting funds and interesting others in the good work, the corner stone of the Seminary was laid June 13, 1855. The building was erected with brick made on the premises. The plans called for a beautiful building with two side wings but for lack of funds only one section was erected on what is known to this day as Seminary Hill. It was a beautiful location for such an institution, overlooking the farms, hills and valleys of that section of the county. Among other things deposited in the cornerstone of the building was a Bible donated by Reverend A. T. Norton.

The school was conducted for a number of years by the Presbyterian Society and in 1861 we find the following reference to one of the courses of study:

"Miss Bel. C. Hamilton was teacher of painting, drawing, and ornamental work. First term to begin March 11th, 1861, for course of twelve lessons material furnished by the seminary. The next regular term will begin September 4th, 1861.

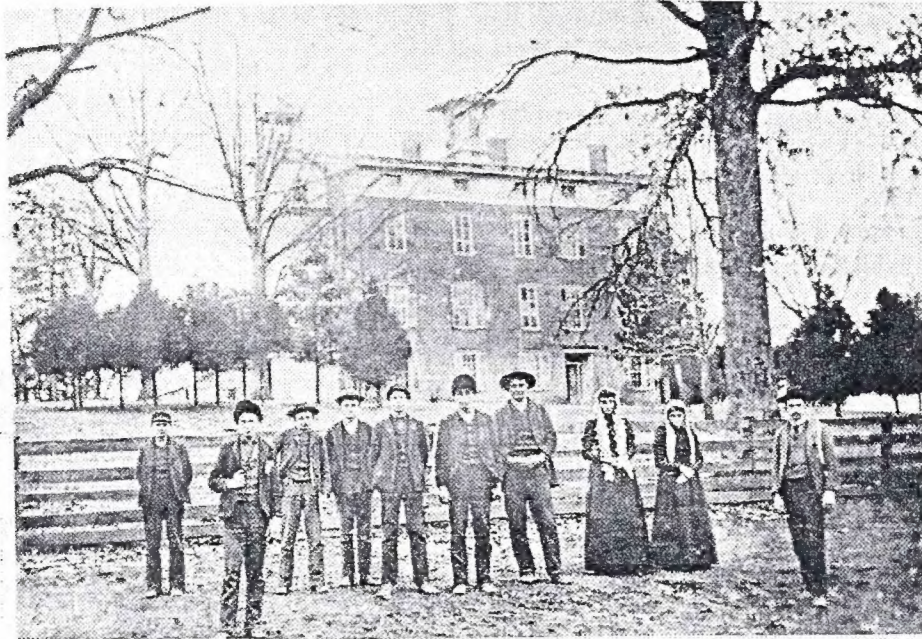
"Kate L. Peck,  
Principal"

In the course of events the Seminary passed into the hands of Dr. J. M. Stone, who departed this life October 11, 1870. It then became the property of Dr. A. T. Stone who continued the Seminary until

1890, when a lack of patronage caused it to be abandoned. During the life of the institution, many girls from all over Southern Illinois received instructions within the walls and owed much to its existence. The premises were eventually sold to George F. Blakeslee who occupied the structure as a summer residence. He, in turn, sold it to the Children's Home and continued as such until 1901. Then it was sold to a coal company which was buying land in that section. The coal was mined from the land by the Majestic Coal and Coke Company.

In 1903 the building, then empty and having been unoccupied for nearly two years, was burned to the ground, save the blackened fragments of the walls. The origin of the fire was never discovered.

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**Seminary at Old Du Quoin**

## Chapter II

### DU QUOIN, ILLINOIS

"Old Town Folk"-- The book by this title is famous; but its setting is not superior to the Old Du Quoin of our Prairie State--that pleasant old village of Southern Illinois to which the strongest of home love and instinct of many cling to this day. The Old Town must have been a reminder of a real New England village. In the lanes and fields the children romped and played together. From Old Seminary Hill, that rose high above the surrounding farms, the view scarcely could have been improved in beauty or in charm.

Many of the old Town families later moved to the New Du Quoin when the Illinois Central Railroad was built and the station, five miles distant was so named.

During the early 40's some eastern capitalist conceived the idea of a railroad from the "Lakes to the Gulf". In carrying out this plan, the states along the right of way donated every other section (640 acres) of land. For this grant the railroad corporation agreed to pay seven percent of the yearly gross earnings into the coffers of the states affected. The right of way was surveyed in the late 40's (a period made famous as the years of the California "Gold Boom," known in history as the "49ers") by B. G. Roots, grandfather of Walter R. Kimzey. Mr. Roots had charge of the sections from Vandalia to Cairo and rode horseback twice a year to Chicago to attend a meeting of the board of directors. In making the survey he made the curve in the road above Sunfield, Illinois, so as to take in some land that afterward came into his possession.

After the railroad was built, Mr. Roots became one of the outstanding educators in the state and was county superintendent of schools a number of years. He was County Superintendent of schools a number of years. He was also a charter member of Perry Lodge, No. 94 of the IOOF in Tamaroa. This chapter was organized November 14, 1851.

The original survey of Du Quoin was made by Mr. William Richart, county surveyor of Jackson county September 20, 1853. There was no surveyor in Perry county at that time.

The first lot sold in survey was number 45 and was purchased by Bargella Silkwood September 24, 1853, and is now owned by Mr. Theo. Wiehn. The lot is located across the street from the southwest corner of the Keyes City Park.

The original survey comprised forty acres, more or less, and extended south from what is now Spring street to Poplar street and east from Division to Washington 250 feet to the present Pear street. Since that time there have been forty additions to the city. Now the limits extend one mile each way, North, South, East and West, from the official landmark in the extreme southwest corner of the Keyes City Park.

The city of Du Quoin was named after Jean Baptiste Decogine a Kaskaskia Indian chief, who was commended for bravery in action while engaged in several battles against the British when he served with Lafayette in and near Albany, New York, in 1778, Little is known about the date of the birth of Chief Decogine, but Lafayette learned from Decogine's daughter that the chief had died shortly prior to Lafayette's visit to America. The name Decogine was derived from the French and was properly spelled at that time, De Cogine. In its present form, Du Quoin, is a corruption of the original spelling.

During a political campaign about sixty-five years ago, Col. Don Morrison of Belleville, Illinois made a campaign speech in the city park. In the course of his address, after praising the fine location of our city, its wide streets, beautiful shade trees, and park, he said: "I knew the old Indian Chief De Coigne from whom your city is named and saw him buried."

Du Quoin was established in 1853, but it was not an incorporated city until about 1864. Its early growth may be attributed to the discovery of coal in this section at the time the Illinois Central Civil

Engineers were surveying the right-a-way through the city. The original town had started in what is now known as Old Du Quoin.

The location of the railroad having been established about 1853, the old Town gradually moved its business and industries to the new location. Du Quoin now lies 288 miles South by West of Chicago with overnight railroad service. It is 71 miles from St. Louis and has excellent railroad and hard road connections with that city.

The city park of Du Quoin was donated to the city by its founder Chester A. Keyes, Sr. It extends from Spring street south to Park street and from Washington street west to Division street. The plot contains six and two-tenths acres.

Main street and Washington street were laid out 100 feet wide, giving ample room for shade trees on each side. Black Locust was the favorite shade tree for a time adding to the beauty of the streets and enhancing the value of the property. One of the outstanding characteristics of our beautiful city is that of its wide, shady streets.

During the bad weather of winter and spring in the long ago, the mud in Main street would mire a jack snipe. However, even though the streets were at times almost impassable, we pulled out of the mud and continued to grow and to thrive. New buildings were moved and replaced by bigger and better ones. Now we have only one frame building on East Main street.

Our muddy streets, board and brick sidewalks have been transformed to paving and concrete. Street lights of oil and gas have been exchanged for electric lights. Now our beautiful white way guides the traffic safely through the streets. The first bucket fire brigade has been relegated to the past and the fire department with its excellent equipments have been made since the city was incorporated seventy years ago.

The brick years used to give employment to a number of men and teams, James McCullough--father of J. Frank McCullough, whose ashes were recently sent here from El Segunda, California, to be buried near those of his father) made brick on the land East of the I.O.O.F Cemetery. Brick made by McCullough were used in erecting the First Baptist building on Mulberry street in 1863, and also were used in the Elihu Onstott residence on South street.

P. D. and J. C. Mifflin made brick on the old Benton and St. Louis Wagon Trail near the Frizzell vineyard on what is now known as East Park street. Some of these brick were used in constructing the Frizzell home on Line street facing Main street.

William Jackson of near Sunfield, made "real hard" brick, some of which were used in the Red Star Mill, Jackson paying for his stock in the company with his brick. Many of the brick made by Mr. Jackson were used at the different coal mines, in residence foundations and chimneys, in sidewalks, wells, and cisterns. He also burned lime from the lime rock behind the Harry E. Ross property on Cole street.

It was not a paying business as the lime from Anna, Illinois, was better and cheaper.

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## CHAPTER III

# 3 September 29, 1934.

### BUSINESSES AND BUILDINGS

The brick yard of Henry Horn, Sr., was located in the extreme southwest corner of town, nicknamed at that time "Buzzard Roost," but not so now, for many comfortable bungalows with well kept lawns and streets now occupy that territory. The McDonald Brick Yard was East of town about three miles and furnished brick for our sidewalks and many other purposes, but it has been abandoned for many years.



**Morris & Hatch Frame**

years later. The business was more recently taken over by management of his brother, "Col." John W. Gear, but was finally consolidated with another firm.

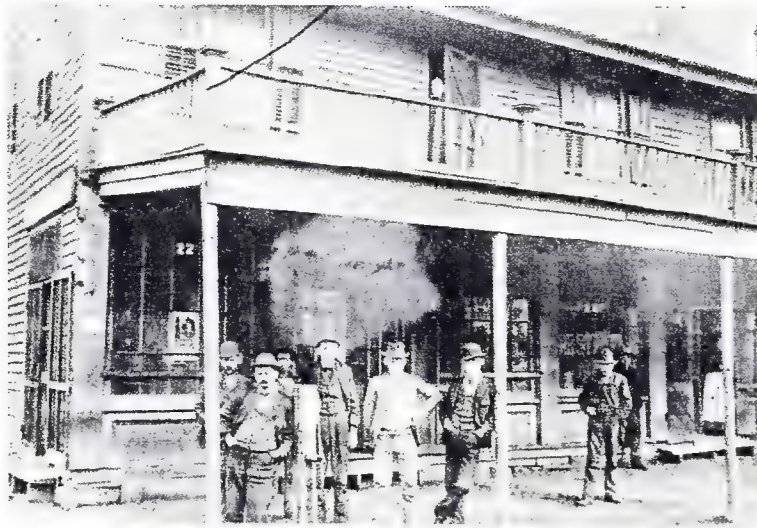
The frame building on the corner of Elm and Main streets is the only one of its kind remaining on East Main street. It was built and occupied by Morris and Hatch who used it for a general store in 1868. After a few years it was occupied by W. H. Fountain who, after many years, disposed of it to John F. Humphrey who for forty years carried on a general store. The building is now occupied by an electrically equipped shoe repair shop.

The Schneider Block on West Main street was on the present site of W. W. Parks' Drug Store, the L. Coressmann & Sons' Grocery and Weinberg's Undertaking Parlors.

Bells Lumber Yard was built about 1860 and Ira Gordon was the first in charge. Then J. P. Clough or "Fie" now living in Los Angeles, California, at the advanced age of more than 80 years, was in charge for many years. He is an ardent admirer of our city, and marks of this may be frequently seen in the Tribune Department of the Call. Hugh Long was in charge of the firm for many years by Walter Gear of Anna and placed in the



**Schneider Block on West Main Street**



**Frizzell Frame NE Corner of Oak & Main Streets**

The present site of the Woolworth building was the location of a two story frame building occupied by William Frizzell and used to house a general store during the Civil War days. The owner was known as "Old Man Frizzell," yet he was only forty-five years old when he died.

He built the fine brick home at the east end of Main street in 1867 at a cost of \$14,000. The residence is still in good repair and is used as a family residence.

His daughter, Lillie, who became the wife of John Marshall Browning, donated to the city the magnificent Hospital which bears his name.

"The Hospital was erected with funds bequeathed by Mrs. Lillie F. Browning, widow of Marshall Browning, formerly of this city. The building with its equipment cost approximately \$200,000 and was erected on the site purchased from the Illinois Central Railroad Company. The contract for the construction of the Hospital building was entered into on February 21, 1921, with the H. B. Kraul Construction Company, of Danville, Illinois, and the hospital was formally opened to the public on July 20, 1922. The hospital has no surplus fund to take care of any deficit, and the only source of income is from the receipts from patients and from a two mill tax levied by the city of Du Quoin."



**Marshall Browning Hospital**

G. S. Smith and Co. moved their frame store building from Old Du Quoin to the corner of Main and Division Street about 1860, and used it for store and bank for some years. It was then moved to the corner of Washington and Olive Street and is now occupied as a dwelling.

The exchange Bank of G. S. Smith and Co. was built on the vacated lot in 1873.

Adjoining it on the west, was a three-story brick building occupied by G. S. Smith & Co. Dry Goods Store.

In 1909 the Exchange Bank was reorganized under a state charter as the First Bank and Trust Co. With the growth of the city and the expansion of the banking business the directors decided that a new building was necessary for the bank to continue its ideal of service to the community.

In 1926 the building of 1873 and the dry goods store building were torn down and the modern bank building of reinforced concrete faced with Bedford Limestone was erected on the same site. In May 1930, the First National Bank and First Bank and Trust Co. merged. Effective July 1, 1930.



## 1867 PEACH CROP

Southern Illinois has become famous as the home of the best peaches. The first large crop that put this section of the state in the lime light, was the bumper crop in 1867, which the Winters Bros., marketed. The Michigan crop of peaches was a failure that year on account of frost.

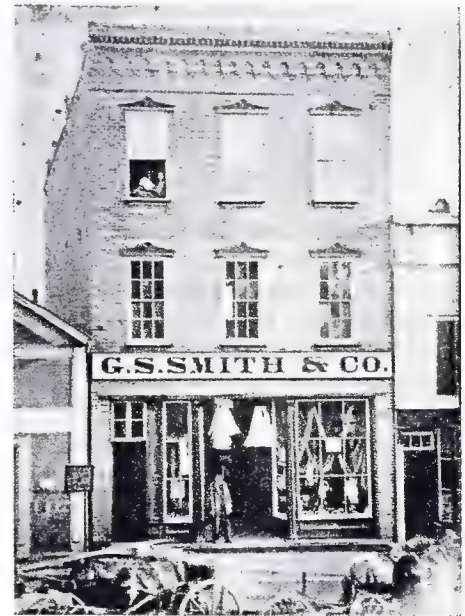
The peaches here were of fine quality and brought a fancy price in Chicago market. Their father, Christopher Winters, had passed away in 1858, soon after the orchard had been set out, leaving the farm land and orchard under a heavy mortgage. The orchard was located within what is now the city limits, and extended from Pear street East to Line street and from Main street North to within 475 feet of North street. A mock or Osage Orange Hedge bounded the orchard on the North side of Main street from Mrs. Nell Reed home to the corner of Main and Line street. Some of the hedge trees are still growing in front of the residences for shade. Mrs. Bell Swofford Lett, now 83 years old, was the prize peach packer and still delights to tell of the interesting experiences of some of the many workers in the orchard.

The crop was harvested and taken care of in fine shape, all expenses were met and the mortgage was lifted. This peach yield was similar to the mammoth crop that the orchards of D. T. Marlow, Howard Pope, W. W. Brayshaw and Ritchie Bros. and other growers had in this section in 1930, trucks coming from Milwaukee, Minn., and Omaha, Neb., and carrying away hundreds of bushels at marvelously low prices.

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Exchange Bank Main & Division May 1873



Mercantile Store Three Story Brick



**Main Street Looking West from the Teague & Harriss Building. On the right side of the picture can be seen the John Higgins Jewelry Store and next the Morris & Hatch Frame on the corner of Elm and Main. On the block between Elm and Division is the Brookings building of 1893. On the left side of the picture is the Exchange Bank of G. S. Smith with their three story brick mercantile store within. Next to the Alley is the Schrader building which was built as a three story and reduced to a two story. There is a train across the track and just beyond can be seen the Red Star Mill.**



## CHAPTER IV

#4 October 2, 1934.

### STATE SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION



State Sunday School Convention

The State Sunday School Convention of 1868 came to Du Quoin and was held on May 18, 19 and 20 of that year, being one of the outstanding events of the time.

The hay press barn of David Wilderman was used to house the gathering, as it was the largest enclosure available at that time. The building was located on the corner of Chestnut and Park streets and faced the Illinois Central Railroad. As I remember the building it was the full length of the lot and about forty feet wide and twenty feet high, with a gangway through the center and lofts on each side for hay. The horsepower press was in the gangway and the horses traveled in a circle outside the building. The barn, being unoccupied, was provided with suitable elevated seats and a platform was erected for the speakers.

Sunday School Workers from all over the state as far as Chicago and South to Cairo, and from the East and from the West were in attendance.

The main object of the meeting was to ratify the adoption of the international Sunday School Lesson system as it is now being used in all Sunday Schools the world over.

B. F. Jacobs of Chicago, world renowned Sunday School Worker was president of the convention. Phillip Phillips, of national reputation as a song writer was leader of the singing. The music consisted of those wonderful soul stirring songs of that day.

I. E. Reynolds, principal speaker, was also of national reputation. Great good came from the meeting and the object for which it was held was accomplished.

Messrs. Townsend and Alva Blanchard of Tamaroa were very ardent supporters of this work.

## FAIR GROUNDS

The District Fair Association secured forty acres of land North West of the city limits in 1870, from Harvey McElvain, father of Corydon McElvain and enclosed it with a six foot high board fence. Suitable buildings were erected at convenient places for housing the farm exhibits and a fine race track was kept in good shape.

Wells were sunk at several places to supply water for those that were thirsty and a large pond was made on the East side to supply water for the stock. A large amphitheater was erected on the South side of the race track and booth's were under it for the sale of refreshments. Restaurants furnished food for the hungry and cool beer flowed in abundance. A bus line was in operation to carry passengers to and from the grounds and "all aboard for the fair grounds" was the familiar slogan. In 1873 the state fair was held here and visitors from everywhere were in attendance. The Illinois Central built a special platform on a side track North of Roosevelt avenue for passengers. A board sidewalk led from there to an East gate to the grounds. The main entrance was from the South on what is now Howard street, or near it.

Collections were not as favorable as theretofore. The premium lists exceeded the appropriation and the venture was a financial success. In a few more years the enterprise was abandoned, grounds closed and the land reverted to the original owner and was used for other purposes.

The following printed ticket of admission to that fair has been preserved through the years by the family of the late James Winters. Could it have been presented just as the original it would show the artistic workmanship of that immaculate printer and publisher of the Tribune through so many years, the late John Beem:

COMPLIMENTARY  
DISTRICT FAIR ASSOCIATION  
DU QUOIN, ILL.  
SEPTEMBER 16, 1872                      CONTINUE FIVE DAYS  
ADMIT JAMES WINTERS & FAMILY  
WM. H. HOLMES, SEC'Y                      S. J. ROSS, PRESIDENT

In the late 60's or early 70's or perhaps 1864 or 1865 (exact date not known) there was small coal shaft and flour mill located on the Southwest corner of what is now the residence lot of the late L. S. Smith, Sr. across the street from the Presbyterian Church, the coal was mined for the use of the mill and did not disturb much of the land. The cooper shop was located a few feet farther South on the adjoining lot which is now the residence lot of Dr. C. M. Brookings.

Some years after the flour mill was abandoned and a whiskey distillery was erected adjoining the mill structure and was operated by a Mr. Clement for a little while, but later was closed by the government. The machinery, "worm and still," were removed, the tanks for malt and refuse were dismantled, and new machines for a spoke and handle factory were installed, it was operated for a while, then abandoned, and in a few more years the old structures were all torn down and the coal mine filled in and the lot tiled and sodded. It is now one of the beauty spots of the city. In former years an elevated wooden sidewalk, about four feet high and five feet wide, with a hand rail on each side, extended from the mill site to the intersection of Washington and North streets, and later the "Presbyterian Hill" was graded and now we have the concrete sidewalk and paved street.

## **CITY OFFICIALS**

The following lists of city officials for the various years from 1865 on will be of interest to many of the present generation:

### **1865**

Mayor, G. S. Smith; Clerk, J. G. Mangold; Treasurer, Elihu Onstott; Attorney, Wm. Elstun; Marshal, Jos. Ogburn; Police Magistrate, T. H. Burgess; Street Commissioner, J. H. Kinoade; Aldermen, T. Tijou, J. McCullough, A. C. Brookings, D. D. Hatfield, G. H. Ford, N. P. Tarr, H. C. Davison.

### **1866**

Mayor G. S. Smith; Clerk, J. G. Mangold, Treasurer, Elihu Onstott; Attorney, S. G. Parks; Marshal, J. Ogburn; Street Commissioner, Thomas. Briggs; Police Magistrate, T. H. Burgess; Aldermen, D. Neely, J. Messmore, J. McCullough, N. P. Tarr, Assessor, John B. Ward.

### **1867**

Mayor, E. Onstott; Clerk, W. L. Cornell, J. H. Thomas; Treasurer, J. H. Moberly; Atty., S. G. Parks; Marshal, J. Ogburn; Street Comm., A. Young, T. J. Hansford; Police Mag., J. S. McLean; Alderman, J. J. Clark, J. Messmore, M. B. Lawrence, R. R. Towns, J. M. Neely, P. N. Pope, J. McCullough.

### **1868**

Mayor J. S. McLean; Clerk, J. G. Mangold; Treasurer, J. P. Cowens; Marshal, L. Rees; Street Comm., F. A. Ragsdale; Aldermen, Thomas Briggs, N. P. Tarr, W. V. Pfeiffer, J. W. Winters, R.; R. Towns, J. McCullough.

### **1869**

Mayor J. S. McLean; Clerk, J. H. Miller; Treasurer, E. N. Smith; Atty., F. G. McLean; Marshal J. McCullough, J. Ogburn; Street comm., Thomas. Briggs; Police Mag., Wm. Reid; Aldermen, B. F. Pope Sr., A. McCreary, Wm. Bowlby, W. V. Pfeiffer, J. W. Winters, Thomas. Briggs.

### **1870**

Mayor, D. D. Hatfield; Clerk, H. W. Happy; Treasurer, E. N. Smith; Atty., D. W. Fountain; Marshal, L. Rees; Street Comm., Thomas. Briggs; Aldermen, C. F. Siekman, A. McCreary, W. Reid, B. F. Pope, Sr., W.; Bowlby; Jos. Bruckshaw.

### **1871**

Mayor, D. D. Hatfield; Clerk, H. W. Happy; Treasurer, E. N. Smith; Attorney, D. W. Fountain; Marshal, L. Rees; Police Mag., J. S. McLean; Street Comm. George McKinney, J.P. Cowens, J. White; Aldermen, J. Thorwell, J. Bookstaver, C. F. Siekman, A. McCreary, J. Bruckshaw, D. Kavanagh.

### **1872**

Mayor G. S. Smith; Clerk, A. McCreary; Attorney, D. W. Fountain, R. W. S. Wheatly; Marshal, Wm. Dearing; Aldermen, B. F. Pope, Sr., H. M. Harris, Joe Bruckshaw, D. Kavanaugh, J. Thorwell, J. Bookstaver; Street Comm. J. White.

## CITY OFFICIALS

### Part II MAYORS

Messmore, Jacob	1873 to 1874
Pope, B. F. Sr.	1875 to 1876
Messmore, Jacob	1877 to 1878
Ross, Silas J.	1879 to 1882
Onstott, Don	1883 to 1884
Solomon, Joseph	1885 to 1890
Neighbors, Wm. R.	1891 to 1892
Brookings, Wm. E.	1893 to 1894
Dunn, D. W.	1895 to 1898
Pope, B. W.	1899 to 1900

### CITY CLERKS

Jennelle, J. J.	1873 to 1874
Clough, J. P.	1875
Howell, T. H.	1876 to 1878
Scott, H. P.	1879 to 1880
Elstun, C. D.	1881 to 1882
Howell, T. H.	1883 to 1884
Forman, H. A.	1885 to 1886
Nettleton, F. V.	1887 to 1894
Cook, Job	1895 to 1900

### CITY ATTORNEY

Fountain, T. T.	1873
Wheatley, R. W. S.	1874
McLean, F. G.	1875
Wheatley, R. W. S.	1876 to 1878
Kelso, M. G.	1879 to 1872
Scott, H. P.	1883 to 1886
Wheatley, R. W. S.	1887 to 1888
Pope, B. W.	1889 to 1890
Fountain, T. T.	1891 to 1892
(Fountain died on 3 Oct. 1892)	
Spillman, I. R.	1892
Messmore, Jacob	1893 to 1894
Pope, C. E.	1895 to 1896
Reid, S. H.	1897 to 1898
Cook, M. C.	1899 to 1900

### CITY MARSHALLS

Dearing, W.	1873
Orton, N. E.	1874 to 1876
Ogburn, Joseph	1877 to 1878
Charlton, John	1878 to 1881
Keyes, C. A.	1881
Leman, John	1881 to 1882
Rees, L.	1882 to 1883

Dearing, W.	1883
Dearing, W	1884
Pyle, Joseph	1885 to 1887
Yates, William	1888 to 1889
Saunders, P. J.	1890
Dearing, W.	1891 to 1892
Conroy, John	1893
Lehmann, N. C.	1893 to 1894
Lehmann, N.. C.	1895
Lett, H. G.	1896 to 1898
Hartsock, S. G.	1899 to 1900

### POLICE MAGISTRATE

McLean, J. S.	1873
Reid, William	1874
Bookstaver, J.	1875
Reid, William	1876
Hatfield, D. D.	1877 to 1879
Ansfield, A. C.	1880
Anderson, A. C.	1881 to 1884
Messmore, Jacob	1885 to 1888
Reid, William	1889 to 1896
Hinckley, E. M.	1897 to 1900

### STREET COMMISSIONERS

Sanders, J. C.	1873
Smith, W. J.	1874
Davison, M.	1877 to 1881
Yancey, R. L.	1882
Hood, James	1883 to 1886
Davis, C. W.	1887 to 1890
Briggs, Thomas	1891 to 1892
Croessmann, Wm.	1893 to 1895
McElvain, Corydon	1896 to 1897
McSpadden, M. L.	1898
McElvain, Corydon	1899 to 1900



## ALDERMEN

### 1873

Wm. E. Brookings, Joseph Bruckshaw, Ben. F. Pope, Sr., D. P. Delano, H. Henke, H. M. Harriss.

### 1874

Wm. E. Brookings, Joseph Bruckshaw, Henry Horn, J. Thorwell, J. Bayless, Marion Teague.

### 1875

Wm. E. Brookings, Joseph Bruckshaw, J. Thorwell, H. Green, P. D. Mifflin, Silas J. Ross.

### 1876

J. Cunliffe, H. Green, A. J. Blakeslee, W. A. Goddard, P. D. Mifflin.

### 1877

George McKinney, J. W. Winters, J. Cunliffe, P. D. Mifflin, W. A. Goddard, Joseph Pyle.

### 1878

Joseph Bruckshaw, George McKinney, J. W. Winters, J. H. Ward, J. Cunliffe, Joseph Pyle.

### 1879

Joseph Bruckshaw, George McKinney, J. W. Winters, J. H. Ward, J. Cunliffe, C. F. Siekman.

### 1880

George McKinney, J. W. Winters, J. Cunliffe, C. F. Siekman, H. A. Forman, William Dudley.

### 1881

George McKinney, J. Cunliffe, C. F. Siekman, H. A. Forman, William Dudley, Thomas Bailey.

### 1882

J. W. Winters, Hiram M. Harriss, Albert J. Blakeslee, Thomas Bailey, Lucius B. Skinner, George McKinney.

### 1883

J. W. Winters, Hiram M. Harriss, Edward Kimmel, Joseph Solomon, William R. Neighbors, George McKinney, Albert J. Blakeslee.

### 1884

George McKinney, Edward Kimmel, Joseph Solomon, William R. Neighbors, C. Rogers, J. H. Ward.

### 1885

George McKinney, T. H. Howell, A. B. Hoff, T. Thomas, C. Rogers, J. H. Ward.

### 1886

Ben. F. Pope Sr., T. H. Howell, C. Rogers, A. B.; Hoff, T. Thomas, James Sawyer, F. A. Anderson.

### 1887

Ben F. Pope Sr., George McKinney, T. H. Howell, C. Rogers, T. Thomas, James Sawyer, F. A. Anderson.

### 1888

Ben. F. Pope Sr., George McKinney, T. H. Howell, T. Thomas, F. J. Voss, Samuel Mills, F. A. Anderson.

### 1889

Joseph Bruckshaw, Ben. F. Pope Sr., T. H. Howell, F. J. Voss, Samuel Mills, J. J. Jennelle, M. C. Carr, F. A. Anderson.

### 1890

Joseph Bruckshaw, J. W. Winters, T. H. Howell, F. J. Voss, M. C. Carr, W. B. Hall, William Jeremiah, C. C. Van Pelt, F. A. Anderson.

### 1891

Joseph Bruckshaw, J. W. Winters, W. B. Hall, William Jeremiah, C. C. Van Pelt, William Johns, Louis Beck, F. A. Anderson.

### 1892

Joseph Bruckshaw, T. H. Howell, Louis Croessmann, William Jeremiah, C. C. VanPelt, William Johns, Louis Beck, John Grieb, George T. Blakeslee, F. A. Anderson.

### 1893

Joseph Bruckshaw, T. H. Howell, Louis Croessmann, William Jeremiah, John Grieb, George T. Blakeslee, Moses Martin, W. T. Macklin, F. A. Anderson.

### 1894

T. H. Howell, Louis Croessmann, G. Q. McQuade, William Jeremiah, Moses Martin, W. T. Macklin, John Jasper, John Charlton, F. A. Anderson.

### 1895

Louis Croessmann, G. Q. McQuade, A. H. Blakeslee, John Weinberg, James H. Harvey, John Jasper, John Charlton, Philip Davis, F. A. Anderson.

## **1896**

G. Q. McQuade, A. H. Blakeslee, (Died 22 November 1896) John Weinberg, James H. Harvey, Jonas McElvain, J. W. Hurt, F. A. Anderson, Philip Davis.

## **1897**

G. Q. McQuade, James H. Harvey, Jonas McElvain, Philip Davis, J. W. Hurt, F. A. Anderson, David N. Wilderson, Joseph Dement.

## **1898**

J. W. Winters, James. H. Harvey, Jonas

McElvain, Philip Davis, J. W. Hurt, David N. Wilderson, Joseph Dement, G. Q. McQuade.

## **1899**

J. W. Winters, Jonas McElvain, J. W. Hurt, David N. Wilderson, Henry Wicklein, Walter W. Parks, Louis C. Zoeckler.

## **1900**

J. H. Ward, Louis Croessmann, David N. Wilderson, Henry Wicklein, Walter W. Parks, Louis C. Zoeckler, Jacob Druar.

## **MAYORS**

W. B. Hall	1901 to 1903
Ben. W. Pope	1904 to 1908
Arthur F. Angel	1909 to 1910
E. E. Jacobs	1911 to 1914
E. F. Knauer	1915 to 1916
Arthur F. Angel	1917 to 1918

## **CITY CLERKS**

Job Cook	1901 to 1910
Samuel Clark	1911 to 1918

## **CITY TREASURER**

Edgar Sims	1901 to 1902
Edward Flynn	1903 to 1904
A. T. Howell	1905 to 1906
Robert Lipe	1907 to 1908
R. W. S. Wheatley	1909 to 1910
John Anderson	1911 to 1912
William Williams	1913 to 1914
B. B. Joplin	1915 to 1916
Corm Kelly	1917 to 1918

## **POLICE MAGISTRATE**

Z. R. Provart	1901 to 1904
M. Davison	1905 to 1910
J. V. Bookstaver	1911 to 1916
W. R. Thompson	1917 to 1918

## **CITY ATTORNEY**

M. C. Cook	1901 to 1906
H. E. Kimmel	1907 to 1908
C. E. Morgan	1909 to 1910
Judson E. Harriss	1911 to 1912
L. R. Kelley	1913 to 1914
J. G. VanKeuren	1917 to 1918

## **CITY MARSHALL**

Charles freeman	1901
Ben. V. Cherry	1902 to 1904
N. C. Lehmann	1905 to 1910
William Kaul	1911
Ben. O. Cook	1912 to 1916
Albert C. Davis	1917
Charles Fox	1918

## **STREET COMMISSIONER**

David McClure	1901
M. McCollum	1903
M. L. McSpadden	1904
John Charlton	1905
C. H. S. Ross	1906 to 1907
Henry Albers	1908
M. L. McSpadden	1909 to 1910
William Henly	1911
Joshua Cavins	1912
Thomas Henderson	1913 to 1914
Charles Freeman	1915 to 1916

## **STREET CLEANER**

W. A. Sizemore	1917 to 1918
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## **NIGHT POLICE**

George Golightly	1903
C. W. Davis	1904
William Plumlee	1905 to 1911
Harvey Lett	1912
William Plumlee	1913 to 1916
Charles Fox	1917
William Atteberry	1918

## **OIL INSPECTOR**

Ben Cook	1911
Charles W. Voice	1912 to 1916
John S. Neely	1917 to 1918

## **JANITOR**

Joe Gladson	1911
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## **POUND MASTER**

George Smith	1912 to 1914
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## **MERCHANT POLICE**

John Rapp	1914
J. A. Jones	1915 to 1916
William Atteberry	1917
Edward Ryan	1918

## **HEALTH OFFICER**

William Plumlee	1917
George Brayfield	1918

## **SPECIAL POLICE**

W. B. Campbell	1917
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## **TEAMSTER**

V. A. Morris	1916 to 1917
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## **SEALER OF WORK**

John Ballentine	1918
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## **ALDERMEN**

### **1901**

John H. Gregory, Ignatius Koerner, Robert J. Wheatley, L. C. Zoeckler, Henry Ward, J. W. Winter, Jacob Druar, Louis Croessmann.

### **1902**

John H. Gregory, Ignatius Koerner, Robert J. Wheatley, L. C. Zoeckler, F. M. Yehling, J. W. Winter, Jacob Druar, Louis Croessmann.

### **1903**

Robert J. Wheatley, F. M. Yehling, Charles Weinberg, John Jasper, J. W. Winter, Jacob Druar, Louis Croessmann, C. H. S. Ross, F. W. Disburg.

### **1904**

Charles Weinberg, John Jasper, Jonah Fluvial, Joseph Knapp, C. H. S. Ross, F. W. Disburg, S. B. Eaton, Edward T. Burbank.

### **1905**

Jonah Fluvial, Joseph Knapp, D. L. Kimmel, John Forester, S. B. Eaton, Edward T. Burbank, Robert Plumlee, Louis Beck, Loran B. Kelley, Jacob Druar.

### **1906**

Joseph Knapp, D. L. Kimmel, John Forester, W. B. Macklin, Edward T. Burbank, Robert Plumlee, Louis Beck Loran B. Kelley, William Stockman. Jacob Druar.

### **1907**

D. L. Kimmel, W. B. Macklin, June Fritz, Peter Kauffman, Jacob Druar, Robert Plumlee, William Stockman, Robert Gracey, Fred Kraft.

### **1908**

June Fritz, Arthur F. Angel, E. F. Knight, John Charlton, James Dunn, Jacob Druar, Noah Lemen, Chris Schickedanz, John S. Neely.

### **1909**

E. F. Knight, John Charlton, James Dunn, Dan Hammann, Jr., J. P. Sandling, Noah Lemen, Chris Schickedanz, Jr., John S. Neely, Henry Albers.

## **1910**

E. F. Knight, John Charlton, James Dunn, Dan Hammann, Jr., J. P. Sandling, Noah Lemen, Chris Schickedanz, George Phillips, Henry Albers, T.; J. Laffoon.

## **1911**

John H. Gregory, E. F. Knight, John Charlton, James Dunn, Dan Hammann, Jr., William Thill, Henry Horn, Jr., Noah Lemen, Chris Schickedanz, Jr., Henry Albers, T. J. Laffoon, E. F.; Knauer.

## **1912**

John H. Gregory, E. F. Knight, John Charlton, Dan Hammann, Jr., William Thill, Noah Lemen, Chris Schickedanz, Jr., E. F. Knauer, D. B. Wakefield, Henry Albers.

## **1913**

John H. Gregory, E. F. Knight, John Charlton, Dan Hammann, Jr., William Thill, Noah Lemen, Chris Schickedanz, Jr., E. F. Knauer, D. B. Wakefield, Henry Albers.

## **1914**

John H. Gregory, Ignatius Koerner, John Charlton, Dan Hammann, Jr., William Thill, C. R. Isherwood, Chris Schickedanz, Jr., Henry Albers, E. F. Knauer, D. B. Wakefield.

## **1915**

Ignatius Koerner, John Charlton, James Dunn, Dan Hammann, Jr., Joseph Weber, Chris Schickedanz, Jr., Carl Ritter, Charles Grills.

## **1916**

Ignatius Koerner. James Dunn, Dan Hammann, Jr., C. R. Isherwood, Joseph Weber, A. F. Weingardt, Casper Cook, Carl Ritter, Charles Grills, Andrew Mayor.

## **1917**

Ignatius Koerner, Dan Hammann, Jr., C. R. Isherwood, A. F. Weingardt, Casper Cook, James McClure, Andrew Mayor, John Meyer, Bert Wright, Hillard Worthington.

## **1918**

Dan Hammann, Jr., James McClure, Bert Wright, Hillard Worthington, Arthur Mann, Robert Burkley, W. R. Williams, Omar Parker, E. E. Brayfield, W. J. Williams.

## **Building & Business Locations**

The lot on the Northwest corner of Main and Division streets was at one time a swampy mud hole. In the early 1860's a one story square frame building with a hip roof was built on the lot and later it was moved to East Franklin street and used for a school house. Mrs. G. Y. McClure, Grandmother of Mrs. Walter Forester (Edith Pope) and Mrs. Fred Forester (Emily Pope), was the teacher.

The "School House" later became the residence of James Wheatley, who at one time was in charge of a Tombstone and Marble Yard.

On the vacated lot, Esquire William Reid and Dr. B. F. Pope built the three story brick building now occupied by Pope Shoe and Clothing Company.

During a period of twelve years from 1900 to 1912, this firm conducted the largest department store in Perry county, occupying a five-store frontage on Main and street and one on Division street. They at that time carried complete stocks of dry goods, shoes, ladies' furnishings, men's clothing furniture, carpets, groceries & etc., During a period of twelve years from 1900 to 1912, this firm conducted the largest department store in Perry county, occupying a five-store frontage on Main and street and one on Division street. They



## Chapter V

# 7 October 9, 1934

### CASTOR BEAN CROP

Soon after the close of the Civil War, Castor Beans and some Cotton were the main farm crops and this city was the largest Castor Bean market in this section of the state. Pope and Kirpatrick were the principal buyers. Some days a line of teams from Elm street to Peach street were waiting to be unloaded. The market price was from #3.50 to \$5.00 a bushel. Business was booming, but did not last many seasons as much farm stock died from eating the leaves while the dew was on the stalks.

It may be of interest to some to know how Castor Beans were handled. When the crop was ready to harvest there was prepared, by clearing a space, a bean yard enclosed by a temporary fence, lining it on the inside with clap boards standing on the ground and slanting inward. The beans, unshelled were piled in this yard and the hot sun caused them to pop out. The refuse was winnowed and the beans were then sacked ready for market.

### TID BITS

\_\_\_\_\_The highest point of ground between Centralia and Cairo, Illinois, along the line of the Illinois Central Railroad is in the city limits at the corner of Franklin and Mulberry streets where Mr. Joseph Dunn is now living.

There is some low ground south of the city where wild Geese and Ducks used to stop when migrating from north to south and no doubt but that Mr. John F. Weinberg was there in season.

In 1868 wild pigeons came by the millions and in 1872 snow birds came over in clouds, almost hiding the sun. John was there again and perhaps Corydon McElvain was on hand.

The row of houses at the south end of Oak street was called "Dog Town" for all the families living there kept a dog or two. Wild Deer would come running across the prairie and jump garden fences that stood in their way.

Venison was common diet in those days and a good marksman need not go hungry for want of game.

Stock ran at large until 1870 and it was no uncommon sight to see cattle and hogs on Main street eating water melon rinds, & etc.

### COAL MINES

Some of the mines have been mentioned by others in their history, so we will call attention to a few more:

### TIJOU MINE

The Tigon (Tijou) mine and tippie was near the Standard Oil Co. tracks on North Division street and a spur track was run East along the lot line back of the Thomas. Tigon (Tijou), Charles Bigger, Harry E. Ross, W. H. Holmes property and turned south, entering a slope after crossing Cole street in what is now known as Pope's addition.

The roof was very poor and the work was abandoned. The little locomotive went into the slope with empties and brought out loaded mine cars. It was a miniature outfit but was sufficient for that day and time.

The workings did not extend as far south as North street. There may be some persons now living that worked in this mine.

## MIDDLE MINE

The first coal mine shaft in the state of Illinois was known as the Middle Mine and was located on the site of the present Blakeslee Mfg. Co. plant. The hoisting shaft was on the east side of the building and the air shaft on the west side. Mr. John Forester, Sr., father of our fellow townsman, James Forester, and grandfather of the four Forester brothers, went to Chicago in 1869 to purchase the machinery to equip the mine. At that time the coal was hoisted with a heavy chain instead of a wire cable as is now used for that purpose. The mine cars were of small capacity and the railroad equipment is for 140,000 pounds or 70 tons.

The first coal shipped from this section of the state was from a slope mine near Murphysboro.

## BIOGRAPHIES

The writer was born in Du Quoin, Illinois, in 1858, in a little frame house north of the present St. Nicholas Hotel where the small brick building is now located.

It was the property of "Grandma Barron" grandmother of former Postmaster Philip G. Barron. My father came from Cairo, Illinois, during the high water in the spring of 1857, and the first man he met here was Jacob Messmore. They each afterwards became mayor of the city. The former in 1870-71 and the latter in 1873-74 and 1877-78.

Mr. Joseph Solomon came by the way of Old Du Quoin and stopped at the home of Jonathan G. Clark for lodging, and then to this city with his "pack" and after a successful business career of more than a quarter of a century was elected mayor in 1885-86, 1887-88, and 1889-90. During this time he did a thriving tailoring business, giving at one time employment to twenty five tailors. Among them was Harry Burrell, Geog. Gleim, John T. Sweatt, Job Cook. The last one mentioned is now in business for himself on South Mulberry street.

## CENTER'S GARDEN

This popular amusement resort was opened to the public in the summer of 1866 by Andrew Jackson Center, father of fellow townsman George H. Center of N. Washington street. It was located on the side of the present dwelling house of William Cook 752 North Division street. The enclosure was 100 x 240 feet with a six foot fence on all sides. The entrance was on Division street through a large gate with a big sign over the top to attract the attention of passers by. A grand stand was mounted on the West end of the smooth wooden dance floor, which was large enough for forty people at one time in the old fashioned round dances. The dance floor was open on Saturday nights till the wee hours of the morning, twice a month and was well patronized. Folks coming from as far as Belleville, Pinckneyville, Carbondale, Tamaroa and other places.

Inside the enclosure and surrounding the dance floor was a luxuriant growth of beautiful will Crab Apple Trees that formed an overhanging canopy which made it a delightful place for the entertainment of guests.

The fiddlers were Billy and Neal Mc Clay and they were good fiddlers. "The dancers paid the fiddlers."

The refreshment stands supplied lemonade, ice cream, candy, cigars, etc., and were well patronized as the grounds were open seven days a week. The great attraction was a "Ferris Wheel," the first one in this section of the state. It was constructed of wood and iron. The arms of the spokes were sixteen

feet long and the passenger seats or boxes were at the extreme outer end, making the wheel thirty two feet in diameter. There was four seats or boxes with room for two passengers in each. Care had to be exercised so as not to get all the "big" passengers on one side, and some times in order to "balance," an extra "kid" would be put in, or a helper would ride. It was operated by hand power. The fare was ten cents for eight times around the world, making eighty cents every eight minutes. It was kept busy some days from 9 A.M. till late at night. Admission to the grounds was free.

No disorderly conduct was permitted. The father passed away in 1869 and the resort was soon abandoned.

For a number of years the site was on the real estate tax list as No Man's Land. If any reader of this article has an idea that this was a beer garden, ask George.

During the years of 1864 or 1865, George says there was only five democrats in town- Andrew Jackson, Charles Bigger, Andrew Carter, D. D. Hatfield, Joel Eubanks.



## Chapter VI

# 8 October 10, 1934.

### STREET CAR LINE

A street Car line to St. Johns and the reunion grounds was built in 1888.

The Southern Illinois Soldiers and Sailors Reunion grounds was located on the site of the present Marshall Browning Hospital and the street car line was from Pope's corner on Division street. The car line was equipped with three horse-drawn cars in the service when needed. A switch was located at Cole street crossing from coming and going cars to pass. During the reunions the patronage was good and the equipment was taxed to its up most to handle the traffic during the rush hours. Cars left every fifteen minutes or so. "All aboard for the reunion grounds" was the cry. Sim Clark was the chief motorman and he and his aids were kept busy. C. C. Breed was at times acting conductor, passing through the crowded car collecting the dimes.



Street Trolley

When business got back to normal, the motorman and one car took care of the business and the leaving time was changed to larger intervals. In 1898 or 1899 the line was discontinued and the rails were sold to a mining company and the cars were used for different purposes.

One was taken to Pinckneyville and used as a curb restaurant and can be seen on South Walnut street in that city now.

Referring back to the reunions some of you older readers will remember the main attraction was the diving horse. A beautiful spotted pony was led to the top of a high platform and would jump off into a pool of water.

Many of the veterans would camp on the grounds and recall the thrilling incidents of the war days and live their lives over again while---

"Tenting on the old camp ground  
Tenting tonight, tenting tonight.  
Tenting on the old camp ground."

The ranks of the Grand Army of the Republic has been almost depleted by the passing of its members who have answered the last "trumpet call." One in our immediate vicinity reached the century mark on September 11, 1934---Comrade Axum Revelle.



## CITY HALL

On Elm street opposite the City Hall, and on the site of the City Tool house was the Calaboose, where the law breakers were incarcerated. It was constructed of two thickness of 2x10 oak, crisscrossed and spiked in the square with plenty of spikes. It contained two rooms and a small hall entrance with large iron hooks to bar the doors. A big heavy brass key admitted entrance, and woe to him who entered. The means of ventilation was by two grated windows in each room about eight feet from the floor and the building was enclosed with a high board fence. The carpenter that built it was fitting the outside door--four inches thick-- to its place, and it became so tightly fitted that he could not remove it. He called to his little son (me) who was playing outside "to get him some help." One good, loud yell brought all the help needed, and soon got him out. He claimed to be the first man locked up in the Calaboose. The structure was used for more than 25 years and replaced by the present city hall and jail on Division street, erected by his son, Clarence C. Hatfield, at a cost of \$7,876.86 in 1892.

The council was so well pleased that they gave him a vote of thanks.

## BLAKESLEE MFG. CO.



**Blakeslee Foundry and Machine Shop**

Blakeslee Mfg. Co. is one of the oldest manufacturing industries in this city. Organized by Blakeslee Brothers in 1862. The buildings were erected on the present site of the Du Quoin Township high school, on the corner of Washington and Poplar street. It was a one story frame structure and as business increased others were added. In 1870 A. J. Blakeslee invented and patented the Blakeslee Steam Jet Pump. In 1882 the business was incorporated under the firm name of Blakeslee Manufacturing Co., A. J. Blakeslee, president. The making of pumps other than Jet pumps was added to the industry and the business became one of great

magnitude. In the meantime "Uncle" Ben Sprague occupied a building on the north end of the pump shop and used the same steam power to run a wool carding plant, procuring some of his raw wool from the farmers in the community that were keeping "watch of the flocks" on the prairies of "Egypt".

Having sold the site for the Du Quoin Township High School the pump business was moved to its present location on corner of "West North street and Chestnut street in 1900. The business passed into the hands of Eli T. Blakeslee son of A. J. Blakeslee, and was continued by him until his death on January 23, 1928, when it was placed in charge of his son J. Ward Blakeslee,



**Blakeslee Plant on Chestnut Street**

who it now conducting the business.

The pumps are used nearly around the world, agencies in Glasgow, Scotland made a shipment to India a few weeks ago. China recently placed an order and also South America. They are in use in the Hawaiian Islands and on other islands of the sea. Some of the "boys" in the World War saw them in use in France.

## **POWELL PLANING MILL AND GRIST MILL**

Powell and Co. operated a Planing Mill and Grist Mill on East Main street where the Sunken Garden now is. The garden was the boiler room and the other machinery was on the ground floor. An elevated wooden side walk spanned the low place to Main street. At one time a slaughter house was located farther to the East and North near the ravine, and John Draper prepared his live stock for market there, and the meat shop was located on the corner of Main street and the alley where the Yehling-Zoeckler building stands.

## **MISC. BUSINESS SITES**

East of the Standard filling station there was the Blacksmith Shop of Mr. Williams, and years after that Mr. T. J. Eddleman built a dry house and dried fruit for the wholesale market.

The site of the Diamond filling station was at one time the residence property of Mr. Ashby McCreary, an uncle of the McCreary sister. It was a frame building facing on Main street and had vines growing along the front porch. It was replaced by the McCreary block of business buildings and later to its present equipment.

Scott Johnson's father W. W. Johnson, I believe, was owner of the building on same side of Main street and west of alley and the upstairs of the addition facing the alley was used by him for church services. It was furnished with seats and pulpit and he being a Methodist preacher had charge of the service. He kept a grocery store in the main building and it was said he did not sell tobacco. How many merchants in town today don't?



**South Division Street with the City Hall on the right.**



## **Chapter VII**

# 9 October 12, 1934

### **FLOUR MILLS**

The wheat crops were at one time a great asset to the farmers of this section and warehouses were lined along the aide track in railroad years. P. N. Pope, H. M. Harriss, P. D. Mifflin were the buyers. The Du Quoin Milling (Red Hoop Flour) was in full blast and shipping their product to some southern city. c. G. Ross mill on West Main street was running at that time and flour and feed business was good. Not many years ago the grinding ceased, the mills closed and the wheat market moved to other towns. With the coming of the automobile the feed business has been cut short and the mode of travel doesn't require much feed except gas and oil where at one time were feed stores, fillings stations have established.

### **KEYES MINE**

The Keyes Mine was south of what is now Kimmel's Lumber Yard. In 1870-72 the tippie was partly torn away and machinery dismantled. The mine must have been closed for some time.

### **JOHNSON MILL**

The Johnson Mill on the corner of East Main and Maple streets had a little coal mine in connection with it that shipped some coal and was connected by a switch that crossed the prairie lots south and west of the Lumber Yard, passing the Keyes Mine.

The track was of wooden rails with strap iron on top. The railroad cars only held ten tons of coal and were hauled from the mine to the Illinois Central switch by horse or mule power. A sad accident occurred at the Johnson Mine. William Edel, father of Finley Edel and grandfather of Leslie Edel was working on the cage in the shaft and fell to the bottom, causing his death. It has been said that an entry was driven east under Main street as far as the old Thorwell store building opposite the present Catholic church.

### **CRABTOWN**

This was a small settlement, a hamlet just a little way off of the Paradise Prairie Road which is now known as Cole street, and was located south of present IOOF Cemetery on a lane running East from Line street. Several log cabins with wells for water supply, and on the corner of the street and ane was a crossroads country store to supply the wood choppers and others with the necessities of life.

### **STOCK YARDS**

The ICRR Co. stock yards were North of the Freight House along Park street. There were four pens and two chutes for loading and unloading. In those days the stock had to be unloaded and fed and watered after a certain number of hours en route. Horses, Mules, Sheep, Hogs and Cattle were handled. Texas Steers with long horns was a common sight.

The boys and men would climb up on top the high fence and watch the stock loaded and unloaded in the stock cars. Al number of cars of Nebraska "Wild Ponies" were unloaded and sold. It was a great time then to see the "Cow Boys" break a Pony to work. Very few accidents occurred to man or beast.



## OLDENDORPH WAGON SHOP



This was one of the industries of our city that we should not overlook. The OLDENDORPH Wagon was well built and a good seller. The shop was located at one time on East Main street at or near the Powell Planing Mill. As the business grew and required larger and better quarters it was moved to the corner of South Oak and East Poplar and housed in a new building with adequate facilities and did a thriving business for a number of years.

There was another Wagon Shop and Blacksmith Shop on Main street on the site of the Yehling and Zoekler building that was operated by Yehling, Ricks, Kraft and Zoekler.

## CITY GOVERNMENT FOR THE YEARS 1919, 1920 & 1921

The Commission form of government commenced on Monday, May 5, 1919, with the following Board of Commissioners:

W. R. Kimzey, Robert Plumlee, John Golden, C. O. Reagin, G. H. Knetzger, C. F. Kelley, Samuel T. Clark, City Clerk; W. R. Kimzey, Mayor resigned on October 24, 1919 effective November 2, 1919; Allen Ozburn appointed Clerk, effective November 1st. On January 7, 1922 Allen Ozburn resigned effective January 31, 1922; Samuel T. Clark appointed Clerk effective February 1, 1922; City Attorney J. G. Van Keuren; Chief of Police, Chas. W. Fox; Night Police Tony Huelsman; Night Watchman George Burbridge, afterward James Gunn; Special Police John Kelley, Ira Brown, Obie Huddleson, b. C. Campbell; Treasurer, Corm Kelly; Inspector, Charles Brosch; Teamster, Carl M. House; Street Foreman, Charles Freeman; Pound Master, and Dog Catcher, W. A. Sizemore; Health Officer, Samuel G. Neville.

The City Government changed from the Commission Form of Government to a Board of Aldermen. An election was held on April 8, 1922. The first meeting of the Council was on May 5, 1922. On September 20, 1919, Mayor W. R. Kimzey's farewell address went as follows:

Members of the Board of Commissioners:

While appreciating the great honor bestowed upon me by the Citizens of Du Quoin in being their choice for Mayor, yet each of us is governed to a greater or less extent by financial consideration, and in my case a business opening so much better than anything existing for me here at home has been opened to me that I felt in justice to myself it was my duty to accept it.

The four months service with you commissioners has had with them much hard work for each of us which has been freely done, and while we have naturally not agreed upon everything that has come before us, each has treated the other's views with tolerance, and our associations have always been free from jealousies and it can truthfully be said that every ballot cast in council meeting has been for what was honestly felt to be for the city's best interest. After one month work in my new position I have decided to remain with it, and while I regret to sever my connection as Mayor of the City of Du Quoin, Illinois, I feel that the city's welfare demands that your Mayor be with you here in the City. I therefore tender my resignation as your Mayor of the city of Du Quoin, Illinois, to take effect at once. \

I regret to sever my personal relation with you and that existing circumstances are such as to make the action expedient; but if at any time I can be of assistance either to yourselves or to whomsoever you may choose to fill this vacancy, my best energies are at your command, and at the service of my home town.

Walter Kimzey



Du Quoin Mill on South Chestnut Street



## **Chapter VIII**

# 10 October 16, 1934.

### **CITY OFFICIALS**

The style of government was changed from Commission form of government. Election April 18, 1922. The meeting of the Council was on May 5, 1922.

#### **MAYORS**

Arthur F. Angel	1922
E. E. Brayfield	1923 to 1924
R. S. Linzee	1925
Arthur F. Angle	1927 to 1934

#### **CITY CLERKS**

Samuel Clark	1922 to 1934
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#### **CITY TREASURERS**

Adam Herberer	1922
James Campbell	1923 to 1924
Henry Wickline	1925
William Woodsides	1927 to 1928
John Watson	1929 to 1930
Casper Cook	1931 to 1932
George Click	1933 to 1934

#### **POLICE MAGISTRATES**

George Armstrong	1922 to 1925
John T. Sweatt	1927 to 1932
George Armstrong	1933 to 1934

#### **CITY ATTORNEY'S**

H. E. Kimmel	1923 to 1928
M. C. Cook	1929 to 1934

#### **CHIEF OF POLICE**

Charles Fox	1922 to 1924
Byron Crowcroft	1925
L. E. Pyle	1925 to 1930
Roy Duckworth	1929 to 1930
L. E. Pyle	1931 to 1934

#### **SECOND POLICE**

Roy Duckworth	1922
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#### **NIGHT POLICE**

L. G. Wells	1922 to 1924
Roy Duckworth	1923 to 1924
Pleasant Cook	1925
James Kelley	1925
Roy Duckworth	1927



Willis Hall	1927
L. G. Wells	1929 to 1934
Roy Duckworth	1931

### **DAY POLICE**

Roy Duckworth	1928
Roy Duckworth	1933 to 1934

### **ASST. POLICE CHIEF**

Roy Duckworth	1932
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### **EXTRA POLICE**

R. C. Springer	1922
Robert Burkley	1922

### **TRAFFIC POLICE**

Harry Pyle	1923 to 1924
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### **TEAMSTER**

Edward Hinckley	1925
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### **MERCHANT POLICE**

Zone Thompson	1928 to 1930
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### **STREET COMMISSIONER**

John Creath	1922 to 1934
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### **SEAL.**

Rudy Michaels	1923
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### **HEALTH OFFICERS**

George Wright	1923
Thomas Terry	1924
L. C. Grills	1925
Thomas Yates	1928 to 1934

### **ALDERMEN**

#### **1922**

F. M. Yehling, Charles Meyer, Harry Greenfield, Charles Farris, William Williams, James McClure, Everett Brayfield, Thomas Mitchell, Frank Clark, Charles Melvin.

#### **1923**

William Williams, Aldis Hemmerle, Alonzo Lockhard, Henry Greenfield, George Schickedanz, C. Schickedanz, Guy Ramsey, H. W. Schroeder, O. C. Jackson, George Winn.

#### **1924**

Harry Greenfield, William Williams, Aldis Hemmerle, George Schickedanz, C. Schickedanz, Guy Ramsey, O. C. Jackson, Ben Davison, Ernest McMurray, Cl. F. Kelley.

## 1925

Harry Greenfield, William Williams, Aldis Hemmerle, George Schickedanz, C. Schickedanz, Ben Davison, Ernest McMurray, C. F. Kelley, Emory Crain, Elmer King.

## 1926

William Williams, George Schickedanz, C. Schickedanz, Ernest McMurray, C. F. Kelley, Emory Crain,

## 1927

William Williams, George Schickedanz, C. Schickedanz, Ernest McMurray, C. F. Kelley, Emory Crain, W. A. Thomas, Henry Schickedanz, Charles Archibald, Ira Brown.

## 1928

William Williams, George Schickedanz, Ernest McMurray, C. F. Kelley, Emory Crain, W. A. Thomas, Henry Schickedanz, Charles Archibald, Ira Brown, John C. Schwinn.

## 1929

William Williams, Alonzo Lockhard, George Schickedanz, Ernest McMurray, C. F. Kelley, Emory Crain, W. A. Thomas, Charles Archibald, Ira Brown, John C. Schwinn, Hiram McMurray.

## 1930

William Williams, Alonzo Lockhard,  
Ernest McMurray, Emory Crain, W. A.  
Thomas, Charles Archibald, Ira Brown,  
John C. Schwinn, L. W. Mercer.

## 1933

Aldis Hemmerle, George Schickedanz,  
Emory Crain, W. A. Thomas, John C.  
Schwinn, Frank C. Breeze, Robert Brock  
J., M. Clayton, W. J. Williams.

## 1931

William Williams, Aldis Hemmerle,  
Alonzo Lockhard, George Schickedanz,  
Ernest McMurray, Emory Crain, W. A.  
Thomas, John C. Schwinn, L. W.  
Mercer, James Dunn.

## 1934

Aldis Hemmerle, George Schickedanz,  
Emory Crain, W. A. Thomas, John  
C. Schwinn, Clarence Jones, Frank C.  
Breeze, Robert Brock, J. M. Clayton,  
W. J. Williams.

## 1932

William Williams, Aldis Hemmerle,  
Alonzo Lockhard, George Schickedanz,  
Ernest McMurray, Emory Crain, W. A.  
Thomas, John C. Schwinn, L. W. Mercer,  
James Dunn, Clarence Jones.

## CITY GOVERNMENT RECAPITULATION

The number of men that have held the office of Mayor, 20. The number of men that have held the office of Mayor more than one term of two years, 6. They were Silas J. Ross, four years; Dr. D. W. Dunn, four years; Joseph Solomon, Six years; Benjamin W. Pope, Eight years; Arthur F. Angel, thirteen years.

The number of men that have held the office of City Clerk in 70 years is fifteen (15). The number of men that served as City clerk for more than one term, 4; Thomas H. Howell, five years; F. V. Nettleton, 8 years; Job Cook, 16 years; Sam Clark, 22 years.

The number of men that have held Police Magistrate in the last 70 years, 15. The number of men that have served for more than four year, 3; J. B. Bookstaver, 6 years; George Armstrong, present incumbent, 7 years; W. F. Reid, 12 years.



## Chapter IX

# 11 October 17, 1934.

### CITY OFFICIALS RECAP

ALDERMEN SERVING TEN YEARS OR MORE:

James W. Winters	1868 to 69, 1877 to 80, 1882 & 83, 1890 & 91, 1898 to 1903. = 16 yrs
Joseph Bruckshaw	1870 to 75, 1878 & 79, 1889 & 90, 1892 & 93, = 12 years.
George McKinney	1877 to 82, 1884 & 85, 1887 & 88. = 10 years.
Chris Schickedanz	1908 to 15, 1923 to 28. = 14 years
Dan Hammann	1908 to 18 = 10 years.
William Williams	1918, 1922 to 1934 = years.
George Schickedanz	1923 to 1934 = years.

### M. J. SCHRADER BUILDING

The Mifflin Brothers, (P.D. & J. C.) furnished brick for the M. J. Schrader building on the corner of Main street and Alley. It was a three story structure, the third story being used for entertainments. The entrance to the upstairs inside from the first floor and also from the outside door of the alley. A stairs led to the second floor hallway and then on to the third floor. The building was used by the owner for years as a furniture store. He also built a two story on the west for a clothing store.

He closed out the furniture business and for a little while J. M. Browning General Store and Coal Office was located there. While there, the first or second telephone used in Du Quoin was installed to connect the Browning Mine with the office. It was the property of the Gold and Stock Co. of St. Louis, Mo. and the rental was eighty four dollars a year, payable semi-annually in advance. It was in use until C. L. Downey telephone exchange was installed in 1895. The building was vacated and sold to T. H. Davison who removed the third story on account of the unsafe condition. It is among the oldest business buildings in the city.

### BROWNING BUILDING (FIRST KNOWN AS MOBERLY BUILDING)

The Browning Building on the South East Corner of Main and Division streets was erected by Dr. Thomas Burgess and J. H. Moberly, the latter a brother-in-law of J. M. Browning. Some of the readers will probably remember the tragic episode that occurred at the Burgess farm home during the week of the District Fair in 1873.

H. H. Taylor's large dry goods store was in the corner of the building which also in later years was occupied by J. M. Browning's Store and Coal Mine Offices. D. W. Davis, F. V. Nettleton, N. A. Rice, George Kauffman, Don Palmer, Guy Davis, C. V. Malone, Mrs. Allie Holmes Sanford, Charles Al. Wall, and your humble servant were employees of the firm.

### BLACK CAT CAFÉ

W. C. Lemming's Drug Store later Jerome Cl. Carr, Dr. W. T. Macklin, John Frizzell, Andrew Macklin and others occupied the present quarters of the Black Cat Café.



## JONES' DRUG STORE BUILDING

The site of Jones' Drug Store was the former home of a Hardware Store owned at different times by King and Lawrence (1864) King and Hatfield, Hatfield and Leighton (1869), M. B. Lawrence and F. M. Miller, father of H. C. Miller; F. M. Miller and W. J. Winters; W. J. Winters died on March 12, 1875, and Frank Stacy was put in charge of the business. George Blakeslee became owner and he consolidated with H. M. Harriss and moved the stock to H. M. Harriss building on the corner of Main and Mulberry. H. M. Harriss became sole owner and sold it to W. F. Edel and John Yehling on August 5, 1895, and the firm name became Kimmel and Yehling. In the meantime, Elihu Onstott, (Mayor in 1869) had started a hardware store in a frame building on the site of the Beck Building on the North side of Main street and in 1863 built on the corner of Main and Mulberry streets and moved his business there. Years after the business was taken over by his son, Don Onstott, who was Mayor of the city in 1880 to 1881.

In later years this hardware business was sold to H. C. Miller who disposed of his interest to Kimmel and Yehling who then moved their stock across Main street. In 1913 John Yehling sold his interest to Kimmel and son and the business is now conducted by Will and Maurice Kimmel, grandsons of Elihu Onstott, under the firm name of Kimmel Hardware.

The Onstott corner has housed a hardware store for seventy years. It has often been said that anyone leaving Du Quoin after taking a drink from the Onstott pump, "will sure return"



Hardware Store Corner Main & Mulberry

The buildings from the Drug Store site were moved to the west side beyond the Horn Bank building, now Bianco's Drug Store, and occupied by W. M. Bates as a harness shop. Not many years ago it was destroyed by fire.

Judge Elstun erected the Neighbors Opera House, now the Lyric on the vacated lots. The lower story was occupied by W. R. Neighbors, Mayor in 1891 and 1892, as a furniture store, and now Jones' Drug Store.

## LAYING THE DUST

Thirty-five years ago there was no vehicle on our streets more familiar than the sprinklings wagon. Boys and girls now do not even know what it looked like. They are perfectly familiar with the term water wagon, but its derivation is unknown to them.

We did not have hard surface streets and in dry weather they were so dusty it was necessary to sprinkle them to lay the dust. The storekeepers on Main street complained that the clouds of dust were ruinous to trade. The sprinkling wagons were operated as private enterprise, the owner of the sprinkler charging the householders so much a month to dampen the street in front of their residences. Now the sprinkler is as extinct as the mammoth or the dodo. In his collection of vehicles of the past Henry Ford might as well have one of the Old water wagons. The thing to be remembered is that we have conquered dust. Dusty highways were the rule up to a time within the memory of all men over 45 years old. If you took a country ride it was necessary to wear a long linen garment called a "duster" in order to protect your clothes. Dust was an intolerable nuisance. Probably in 1890, if the people had been told that in 1934 there would be no heavy dust in the city or on the country roads, even in the driest weather, they would have thought such a thing beyond possibility. But then, if you had told them of the moving and sound pictures, or of the radio they would have thought you equally crazy, talking the way Jules Verne wrote.

Our sprinkler wagon was a two horse affair and was driven at different times by Moses Martin, Edward Burbank, Timothy Lipe and others. The water was furnished form an old mine shaft and from other sources. The small boys and girls would walk behind the sprinkler, just close enough to let the water wash their feet and some times their head and hands. The early morning hours was the best time to do the work before the teams were hitched to the racks along the streets.

#

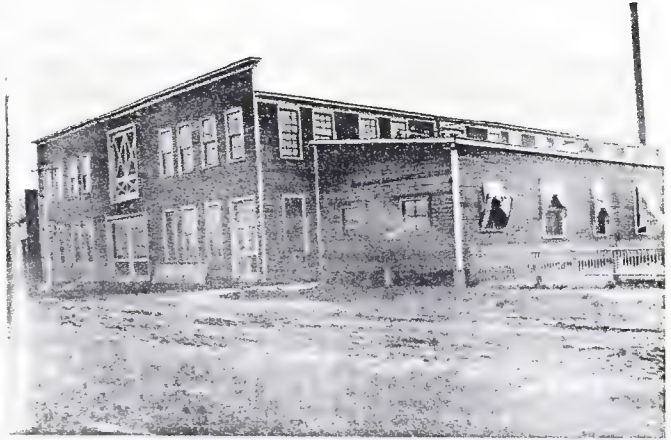


## Chapter X

# 12 October 19, 1934.

### DU QUOIN PLANING MILL

In 1887 J. C. Eades and associates started a hand and foot power planing mill on the second floor of the building on the corner of Main street and the alley, now occupied by Friedman. They prepared the finishing lumber and assembled doors and windows frames and other building material. As the business increased the equipment was moved to other quarters and further increases put the business in a two story brick building on the corner of Mulberry and Poplar where it was changed to steam power. The steam was furnished by the Blakeslee Mfg. Co. through underground pipes crossing the lot on which the high school annex now stands, and Mulberry street. The business dept growing and was finally moved to a site near the bottling works on Olive street.



**Du Quoin Planing Mill**

The Mulberry street building was remodeled and enlarged into the present opera house.

After a few years of successful operation the planing mill met with reverses and was eventually given up and the building partly destroyed by fire and used for other purposes.

### ONE-HORSE DRAY



**Thomas Thompson with his Dray**

It was no uncommon sight to see the draymen, Thomas. Thompson C. H. Mifflin, Max Etherton, John McClure and others hauling loads of lumber and freight and household goods. Back the dray up to the front of stores and let the end rest on the walk, so as to unload the merchandise with very little trouble. When the dray was empty the driver would either stand near the center or sit on the side with his feet hanging down so as not to get the jolt. The dray was gradually replaced by the transfer and then came the auto truck.

At one time there was an epidemic of "epizootic" among horses and some teamsters put oxen into service.

The prairie grass should have been mentioned first as it was here first, even before we came. Many of these early settlers spoke of it being as height as horses' heads and very thick. Looking over the prairie it could be seen waving in the sun like great fields of ripening grain. Deer and Buffalo and rabbits were easy game but the white man hunted them to death, and now the principal meat supply is beef, pork and mutton.

## GRASS

Lying in the sunshine among the buttercups and the dandelions of may, scarcely higher in intelligence than the minute tenants of that mimic wilderness, our earliest recollections are of grass; and when the fitful fever is ended and the foolish wrangle of the market and forum is closed, grass heals over the scar which our descent into the bosom of the earth has made, and the carpet of the infant becomes the blanket of the dead.

Grass is the forgiveness of Nature-- her constant benediction. Fields trampled with battle, and saturated with blood, torn with the ruts of cannon, grown green again with grass, and carnage is forgotten. Streets abandoned by traffic become grass grown like rural lanes and are obliterated. Forests decay, harvests perish, flowers vanish, but grass is immortal. Beleaguered by the sullen host of winter, it withdraws into the impregnable fortress of its subterranean vitality and emerges upon the first solicitation of spring.

Sown by the winds, the wandering birds, propagated by the subtle agriculture of the elements which are its ministers and servants, it softens the rude outline of the world. It bears no blazonry of bloom to charm the senses with fragrance or splendor, but its homely hue is more enchanting than the lily or the rose. It yields no fruit in earth or air, and yet should its harvest fail for a single year famine would depopulate the world. --John Ingalls.

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## Chapter XI

# 13 October 23, 1934

### THE OLD LOG SCHOOL

Just within the narrow clearing,  
Stood the little log built school;  
Near the brook that wayward veering  
Kept the glowing cowslip cool.

There through part of passing years,  
Children came from miles around,  
Sowing, like true pioneers,  
Seeds of knowledge in rough ground.

Though, within the room, no gloss  
Had been painted over all,  
There was beauty in the moss  
Clinging still to gray barked wall.

Near the door upon a bench  
There was water from the rill;  
Nature sent, youth's thirst to quench,  
Cool spring streamlets from the hill.

Slowly then the hours would pass,  
Slowly eastward, shadows creep;  
When the teacher called a class  
Often some would be asleep.

And in winter, when the storms  
Showed to us their fiercest moods,  
Drifting snow in ghostly forms  
Whirled around till lost in woods.

Then the window panes would rattle;  
Through the chinks the snow would blow;  
Whilst the stove for us would battle  
'Gainst the cold with fiercest glow.

One hundred years ago (1834) many of the school houses were built of logs and covered with clapboard roofs.

The windows were made by cutting out two logs and the chimney consisted of sticks and mortar.

Big logs were used for fire wood. The desks were made of split trees, with the split side smoothed and fastened to the wall. Seats were made of the same material resting on pegs for legs. The ground was the floor.

What vast improvements have been made during the past one hundred years!

Schools were opened soon after the City of Du Quoin was started in 1853, and for a few years were held in rented houses. The facilities were meager, but adequate for the times, when the full course of study was the three "R's"--"Readin', 'Ritin' and 'Rithmetic."

One school building was on East Poplar street, (mentioned before.) One on South Mulberry, near the site of Duncan Furniture Store, (where Geog. Winn went to school); another on North Mulberry, near the IOOF building. A Miss Davison taught a private school in the house south of the F. M. Yehling home on South Washington street, about 1864. A one - room frame building was erected on a lot donated by Keyes and Metcalf -- the site being that of the present (1934) J. B. Ward school, and was used until the Du Quoin public school house was built in 1866, at a cost of \$24,000. This was a two-story, eight room brick structure. The two west rooms upstairs were separated by folding doors, so that both rooms could be used as one when the occasion required. The first graded school was opened in the brick school house in Du Quoin, January 2nd, 1867, and the first high school in 1880? The rooms were heated with large, heavy, cast iron cannon stoves, one in each room. The janitor, Charles Ricks (colored) kept all the fires going, cleaned all the rooms and two big halls, wound the clock, rang the bells, carried all the coal in buckets from the basement, wore a smile that wouldn't rub off. Some times he would come into the room to fix the fire during school hours, and of course some of the little "kids" would laugh. Once when duty called him to the attic, he, making a misstep, fell across the ceiling joist, broke through the plaster, and hung there with his hands and feet dangling in the room below, to the consternation and amusement of teacher and scholars!

During the fall term of 1875 and spring term of 1876, the colored children were given the north-west room down stairs, in this building.

The same year a one-room school house was built for colored children on the corner of West Park and Hickory streets. The first teacher was Miss Mary E. Cotter. At one session, when some visitors were present, the children became restless, and one, more unruly than the rest, was overawed by the following ejaculation from the teacher; "If you fail to desist from this disturbance, I will dispense with your presence!"

After a few years another frame building suitable for school room, was moved to the same lot to take care of the increased attendance.

In 1907 the Lincoln School, a substantial brick structure of six rooms, with modern equipment and adequate facilities was erected on the same site. The course of study was arranged to include high school instruction so the colored children have all the advantages of higher education.

In the early 80's the public school building was deemed unsafe on account of cracked walls and other defects and a new building was necessary. The attendance had also increased and more room must be provided. Some of the lower grades had as many as 100 in a single room! At the close of the spring term in 1887 the eight-room school house was not adequate for the increasing attendance. The old building was wrecked and a new building of eight rooms with four rooms to be added, making 12 rooms in all, was started.

While this work was being done the school was housed for one term in several different buildings: Neighbors' opera house, vacant store buildings, and other suitable quarters.

The following year, 1878, the J. B. Ward school was occupying the building which was not fully completed; but in course of time the furnace heat was added and all the equipment was in place. Shortly after this a frame structure for temporary use was erected on the west side of the lot and used until more room was supplied by building a one-room frame house, on Reed and Hickory streets in 1887. This building soon became inadequate to accommodate the ever increasing number of pupils. It was disposed of for use as a dwelling house and in 1894 (?) the fine brick building on Reed and Walnut -- the McKinley school -- was erected. This was an 8- room modern structure with basement and all necessary equipment for accomplishing the best results.

It proved to be too small to house all the scholars who were in that immediate vicinity, so a temporary wooden annex was built on the same lot until more suitable quarters could be provided.

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## Chapter XII

Article # 14 24 October 1934

### SCHOOLS

In 1923 the West Park School, with a gymnasium, was located on the site of P. N. Pope's countryside home--a beautiful location for the commodious modern school house that is equipped with all up-to-date facilities.

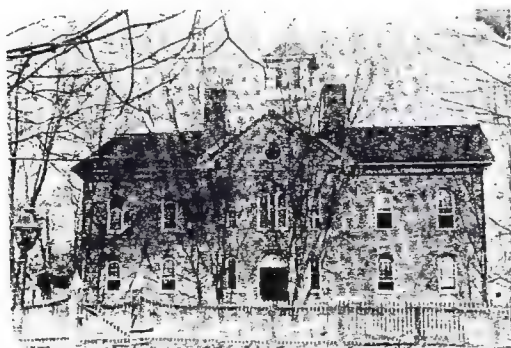
The west side of town is now all fitted out with plenty of school room for the next few years.

In the meantime the east side of town was in need of more school room, so in 1916 the R. A. Wheatley School of eight rooms, lighted and heated and fully supplied with all that it takes to make a school complete, was opened to the public.

A few minor changes have been made, and the school rooms are now up-to-date.

After this the question of higher educational facilities arose, and a location was sought suitable for such an accession to our already elaborate school system. The Blakeslee Mfg. Company's site on South Washington and Poplar streets was purchased. The building torn away in 1906 and our magnificent Township High School, of which we are justly proud, was soon ready for occupancy. It answered the purpose for some years, but the additional increase in attendance from the outlying districts and nearby towns soon made it evident that the building must be enlarged. In 1923 permission was granted by the city council to close up that part of the alley between Washington and Mulberry streets and to extend an annex to Mulberry street. An up-to-date gymnasium was installed in the basement and a large suitably equipped room on the second floor of the building was set apart for study and assembly, and occasional public meetings.

The city now has one of the finest and best systems of public schools--well fitted for the development of both brain and brawn.



Public School 1867 to 1888



Public School after 1888



West Park School



High School 1906

## DU QUOIN PACKING PLANT

The Du Quoin Packing Plant, a very recent industry, doing a rapidly increasing business, is not included in "Historical Events."

Its location, however, is entitled to honorable mention, for it has an historical life of the long ago.

Gypsy Hill was so named because it was a rendezvous for many gypsy camps located there by the migrating families that told "fortunes" and swapped horses.

A romantic wedding took place on Gypsy Hill many years ago. The event may be recalled by some readers.

Not far from Gypsy Hill is Blue Bell Island, which was ever the favorite haunt of all the budding botanists of our high school classes. Many pupils of by-gone days while turning over the yellowed leaves of their herbariums will recall with a thrill of pleasure the delightful jaunts with their teachers to this beautiful spot.

Here were found, in abundance, the early spring flowers: trillium, violet, blood-root, may apple and other varieties besides the lovely blue bell.

From this historical place is derived the trade mark of "Blue Bell" Hams so extensively advertised and sold in southern Illinois. "Gypsy Hill" Feed Co. also shares in the honors of the location and distributes its products to all nearby markets.

All this land was bought for \$1.25 per acre from the United States Government, in 1836, during the administration of President Andrew Jackson, by one John Pyle. The original site of Du Quoin was in this purchase, which included a large tract of land extending south and east as far as what is known as Lipe Hill, where the first log house in this vicinity was built.

Our present Main street was in his cornfield, and Joseph Pyle plowed corn there. The site of the Browning Hospital was also in the purchase. Near the road, before crossing the creek on the way to Paradise Prairie, he reserved a parcel of land for perpetual use as a family burying ground. This is intact at the present time, (1934), ninety-eight years since its purchase.

This quiet spot--the last resting place of himself and wife and other members of the family --is marked by tombstones and a crumbling brick wall.

In order that the reader may be better acquainted with this family, we will trace it to the present generation: John Pyle, father of Hiram Pyle; Hiram Pyle, father of Lucinda Pyle-Gill; Lucinda Pyle-Gill, mother of Aralla or "Lell" Gill Erwin, wife of George C. Erwin; George C. Erwin, Father of Winnie Erwin; Winnie, father of Marshall; Marshall, father of Robert Gillespie Erwin, (1934) who is the great-great-great-great-grandson of John Pyle, or the seventh generation.

## CHURCHES

Du Quoin is certainly a city of churches. How much we owe to those noble Christian pioneers from the Eastern and Southern states who weathered the hardships and privations of a new unsettled country and laid the foundation for our beautiful and influential city! Churches and schools were built as soon as possible after a few homes had been established. We will not attempt to give a church history, but only a short article on organization and building of some of them.

They are all now housed in modern substantial buildings that are adequate for the needs for many coming years.

The First Presbyterian church was organized at Nine Mile Prairie, later called Old Du Quoin, November 15, 1840. The name of the place was changed to Old Du Quoin, March 17th, 1865.



The church in Du Quoin was organized September 14, 1856. The first building was built in 1858. It was moved off the lot and sold to the Adventist about 1890, and in a few years was destroyed by fire.

The third building was built of Ozark red granite was built on the same site in 1929, at a cost of \$75,000 with furnishings.

The First Baptist church on Mulberry street, was organized on May 30, 1857.

Their first building, of brick, was erected in 1864, and remodeled three times. It was vacated in 1926. The second building was built in 1925-26, of brick and stone, with seating capacity of 1,200, with furnishings at a cost of \$175,000. It was located on the northeast corner of Park and Washington streets.

The Main Street Christian church was organized in 1857. C. A. Keyes, Sr. donated the lot. The first building, was a frame structure located on Spring street and was built in 1858. The building was sold and moved to Oak street in 1894. The building is now known as Joe Love's Hall. The second building on Main street was erected in 1891. It was remodeled with brick and stone in 1925.

The Methodist church was organized in 1857. A brick building was built in 1864. It was torn down and replaced with the present (1934) frame structure in 1897. Mrs. Nancy Woolley donated the lot.

#



**Original Baptist Church**



**Original M E Church**



**Original Presbyterian Church**



**Main Street Christian Church**



**Catholic Church**





**Baptist Church Second Building**



**Baptist Church Third Building**



**Presbyterian Church 2<sup>nd</sup> Building**



**Methodist Church Frame**



**Presbyterian Church 3<sup>rd</sup> Building**

## **Chapter XIII**

Article # 15 October 26, 1934

### **CHURCHES CONT.**

#### **Mt. Zion Baptist Church**

Mt. Zion Baptist Church. Was located in Locust Grove north of this city in 1866. A one story frame structure suitable for their needs at that time. A few years later the membership decided to move to a lot on North Walnut, near Perry street, 1880. The growing church needed a better and larger house of worship. During 1898 the building on the corner of Hickory and East North street was started, but has not yet been completed. (1934)

#### **Mt. Olive Baptist Church**

Mt. Olive Baptist church. was built on South Maple and West Poplar about 1897 (?). A one story frame building large enough for all purposes.

#### **St. Paul Baptist Church.**

The present house of worship was erected in 1909 on the corner of Hickory and Perry streets. A substantial brick building with furnace heat and other modern accessories necessary.

#### **A. M. E. Zion Church**

The A.M.E. Zion church was built on Park and Hickory in 1884. A frame structure of adequate size for their needs at the time. In 1923 the building was replaced by the commodious brick structure on the same site.

#### **Catholic Church**

Locust Grove was a row of trees between Du Quoin and St. Johns and just south of it was located the first Catholic Church, on the corner of Walnut and Perry streets. It was a brick structure built in 1866 and destroyed by cyclone in 1888 and the present structure of brick and stone was erected in 1890 on the corner of Main and Walnut streets. The Parochial school building was erected in 1892.

#### **Evangelical Church**

The first  
1876 and replaced  
structure in 1929.

building was erected in  
with the present modern



**St. Johns Evangelical Church**

## NEWS PAPERS

### THE PRESS

The Press was first issued at Tamaroa, Illinois on May 9, 1879, by the Curlee Brothers and there continued until September 15th, 1881, when it was moved to Du Quoin, and from the office was issued as the Du Quoin Press.

### DU QUOIN NEWSPAPERS

The first newspaper established in Perry County was called the *Perry County Times*. Published in Pinckneyville, October 1st, 1956. William McEwing, editor and publisher.

The second paper was established in Du Quoin, Illinois. Du Quoin Mining Journal, Paul Watkins, editor, August 21st, 1858. It was republican in politics and devoted to the interests of Du Quoin and vicinity. On the death of Mr. Watkins it passed into the hands of Alonzo Bennett. He changed its politics. His extreme views led to a rupture between him and a company of soldiers. They broke into his office and pitched the type into the street. Soon after this the paper suspended publication.

The office was located on the corner of Park and Oak streets.

The following is a partial list of the business advertisements in the issue of June 2, 1859:

### AFAM

Du Quoin Lodge No. 234 holds its regular communications on Thursday evening on or before the full moon. Guy C. Ward, W. M.; B. S. Sprague, Sec.

### Cheap, Cheaper, Cheapest G. S. SMITH & CO.

Magnificent array of Spring and Summer Goods. Notions in endless variety. Hardware and Groceries. Our stock of Teas "can't be beat" this side of China. Our entire stock has been Personally selected with great care at the "fountain head" and having long been accustomed to "hard fare" and wearing "poor Clothes" we think we can live on as small profits as our neighbors. Small profits and large sales is our motto.

When this firm moved the store building from Old Du Quoin to its present location, on the corner of Main and Division streets, it took twenty yoke of oxen to pull it over the rough country roads.

### No Monopoly

Free Trade and Farmers' Rights at the new Cheap Cash Store of  
J. H. Brown  
Come and be convinced and save 30 percent in your purchases.

### Gilbert Nettleton

Spring and Summer Goods Cutlery and Groceries Terms; Cash or Produce.

**Geog. G. Hopkins, M. D**

All calls promptly attended to day or night, rain or shine.

**New Clothing Store.**

Neighbors' Old Stand Please Give Me a Call

**M. J. Schroeder**

New Firm. New Goods, Grocery and Provision store. In building formerly owned by Henry Horn. No. 5  
North Oak Street, between Main and Park streets.

**E. P. Monk & Co**

**Illinois Central R. R. Co.**

Through Trains to Chicago, Illinois Change Cars at Centralia for St. Louis, Mo.

**Henry C. Hoffmann**

Stoves and Holloware, New Building Corner Main and  
Mulberry Streets. Opposite Post Office

**Drugs and Medicine**

Dr. A. Tetrick

Du Quoin Drug Store, corner of Main and Oak Streets. opposite I. C. Depot.

**Wall & Dyer**

Physician----Surgeon

Office on Main Street, between Division and Oak

**J. G. Mangold**

Book Store

In Journal Building

Corner Oak and Park.

**RAGS! RAGS! RAGS!**

60 lbs. will pay for Mining

Journal 1 year

**Paul Watkins**

### **GUN SMITHING**

Robert Parks  
Strict Attention Given to the  
Repairing of Guns and Pistols.  
Shop in Northeast corner of Public Park

### **COUNTRY PRODUCE**

Taken as Pay for  
Subscription  
**Mining Journal**

### **FEMALE SEMINARY**

Old Du Quoin  
The Second Term Will Open  
January 3, 1859.  
J. Wood Secy.

### **DU QUOIN NURSERY**

Fruit Trees and Evergreens  
**WRIGHT & POMEROY**

Wagons, Buggies and Carriages  
Shop N. W. Corner of  
Mulberry and Poplar  
**William Combs**

### **GROCERIES and PROVISIONS**

A New Store on Main Street.  
One door east of D. B.  
Hatch & Co.  
**J. C. TALBOT**

### **S. J. ROSS & CO.**

Dealers in Lumber, Lath, Shingles,  
Sash, Doors and Blinds

### **St. Johns, Perry County, Illinois**

Du Quoin Mills  
FLOUR AND CORN MEAL  
Custom Work Attended  
To Promptly  
**JOHNSON & TETRICK**

### **B. W. WHEATLEY**

House Signs  
Carriage and Ornamental Painter



Article # 16  
October 30, 1934

## Chapter IX

### **BOOT AND SHOE MAKER**

John Stolz  
Shop on Oak Street  
Between Park and Main

### **Notary Public Justice of the Peace**

and Land Conveyances  
G. Y. McClure

### **THOMPSON HOUSE**

The undersigned, having taken  
charge of above house, is now ready  
to receive boarders and guests.  
Single Meal 25c  
G. H. HAGGARD

### **CENTRAL HOTEL**

Corner Main and Oak  
Charges Moderate  
J. B. BROWN, Prop.

### **SORE EYES! SORE EYES!**

Dr. Powell's celebrated  
Eye Salve. Three miles  
south of Du Quoin.  
JOSEPHUS VANCIL

### **CASH PAID FOR HIDES**

Deer Skins, Wool, Feathers, Tallow  
and Lard in Barrels  
THOMAS. Tijou  
Corner Main and Division St.

### **Emerson's Patent Sugar Cane Mill for Making Sorghum**

Molasses  
CHESTER A. KEYES, SR.  
Agent

### **---Give Ear, O Ye Farmers---**

#### **WOOL CARDING**

Iron and Wood Turning  
Northeast Corner Public Square  
at Du Quoin Station  
B. SPRAGUE.  
A. J. SPRAGUE.

**C. H. BROOKINGS**  
Wholesale and Retail  
Dealer in drugs, Medicine  
Physicians' Prescriptions  
Carefully Compounded

**DU QUOIN JEWELRY STORE**  
Watches, Clocks and Jewelry  
Shop On North Side of Main St.  
D. C. GORDON

## **THE STARS AND STRIPES**

This paper was published in Du Quoin, Illinois, March 24, 1864. J. D. Mondy, editor and publisher.

The press and type were purchased by the citizens, who contributed different sums.

In the prospectus it was announced by the editor that the "publication was to be an unconditional Union paper---to be for the Union---whole Union---without any ifs or ands, or buts---believing that there can be but two parties in this conflict. A man cannot serve two masters. He must love his country and despise his enemies."

Mr. Mondy continued editor and publisher for a few weeks only.

On the 26th of April 1864, Mr. George O. Ash and Al. B. Bennett formed a partnership and took charge of the paper. They held control until December 30th, 1864.

The following is some of the advertisements in the paper for September 9th, 1864.

**GET THE BEST!**  
The Union Coal Mining Co.  
Du Quoin, Illinois  
are now prepared to furnish their  
**SUPERIOR COAL**  
The Union is a new joint stock  
company, composed wholly of  
miners, each of whom is interested  
in making a good clear article.  
M. B. LAWRENCE, Supt.

**WANTED**  
A girl to do general housework for  
a family of six. Apply at this office.

**McLAIN'S MILLINERY  
AND DRY GOODS STORE**  
F. G. and J. E. McLain

**MRS. A. Tetrick**  
Millinery and Dry Goods  
Also, Agent for Singer Sewing  
Machines

**BOOT AND SHOE SHOP**  
**J. Q. A. ANTHONY**  
One Door South of Main  
on Division Street

**HARDWARE, CUTLERY, NAILS**  
**IRON, ETC.**  
**E. ONSTOTT & SON**  
Southwest corner of Main and  
Mulberry

**KING AND LAWRENCE**  
Stoves and Hardware  
Corner of Main and Elm

Dry Goods and Clothing and Groceries  
**ELBERT & SOLOMON**  
In Frizzell Bldg., Corner of Main  
and Oak Streets.

New Firm!                      New Goods!  
**MORRIS & WINTERS**  
In the Three-story Brick Store  
Dry Goods, Groceries Boots and  
Shoes, Queensware,  
Furniture, etc.

Latest from Richmond!  
Great Excitement!!!  
Everybody on the lookout to see  
the fresh arrival of new goods at  
the store of  
**G. M. HINCKLEY**

**DU QUOIN MARBLE CO.**  
Will Furnish Any Thing In  
Marble In Good Style  
**B. B. VAN DRUVER.**  
**WM. W. BUMBON.**

**PHOTOGRAPHER**  
Southeast Corner of Main and  
Division

Ambrotypes  
J. G. MANGOLD, Artist

**HENRY HORN**  
Wholesale Dealer in Lager Beer  
Wines, Liquors, Tobacco  
Cigars and Groceries

Clocks, Watches and Jewelry  
**FORD & BERRY**  
Main Street Du Quoin, Illinois

**MONK HOUSE**  
Corner of Oak and Park Streets  
A. MONK & SON.

**DR. M. P. LEMEN**  
Office on Main Street one door East  
of Brookings' Drug Store. Residence  
South Mulberry, two blocks  
from post office.

**POST OFFICE**  
Corner Main and Mulberry Streets  
**J. B. YEARIAN, P. M.**  
Letter unclaimed Sept. 9, 1864  
Beeton, John. L., Gimmet, Capt.  
Samuel, Hawkins, J. M., Johnson,  
Mary C., Oaks, Mary E., Pumington, Isaac.  
Spotts, Sarah A., Thomas, Mary E.,  
Wood, Luida, Clark, Thomas, Harland, J. N.,  
Johnson, Miss Mary, McElroy, Patrick,  
Philips, Edwin, Short, Miss Mary C. ,  
Stafford, Mrs. Lucinda,  
Vaneth, J. M., Webster, Lewis.

**M. C. CRAWFORD**  
Attorney-At-Law  
Du Quoin Illinois

**G. W. WALL**  
Attorney-At-Law  
Du Quoin Illinois

**W. M. ELSTUN**  
Attorney-At-Law  
Pension and Bounty Agent  
Du Quoin Perry County Illinois

T. H. Burgess, M. D.  
John McLean, M. D.  
**BURGESS & McLEAN**  
Physicians and Surgeons  
Du Quoin, Illinois

**JAMES HUNTLEY**  
Proprietor of Livery and Feed  
Stables  
Du Quoin Illinois

**W. V. PHEFFER**  
Dealer in Cigars and Tobacco. The  
best cigars, tobacco and perfumery  
ever offered in this market.

G. K. Kirchner Jacob Manz  
**KIRCHNER & MANZ**  
Manufacturers of Chewing Tobacco  
and Cigars  
Du Quoin Illinois

**A. C. BROOKINGS**  
Dealer in Pure Drugs, Patent  
Medicine  
Window Glass  
Pure Wines and Liquors for  
Medical and Sacramental  
Purposes  
Prescriptions Carefully Compounded  
at all hours. Du Quoin, Illinois

**HARVEY & BAKUS**  
Undertaking  
A Hearse in readiness at all times  
when required

Dentist  
**ROBERT BLUM**  
Dental Rooms at Bell House  
Du Quoin Illinois





## Chapter XX

Article # 17 October 31, 1934

### DU QUOIN RECORDER

On January 1st, 1865, the "Stars and Stripes" passed into the hands of W. A. Ballard & Co. ---- J. E. Bowen was the "Co."---- The name of the paper was changed to the *Du Quoin Recorder*. The first issue under the new name was March 3d, 1865.

This arrangement continued eight months, when Mr. Bowen retired. Mr. Ballard conducted the paper until 1867, when Charles H. Hayes became associated with him. This arrangement continued until November 7th, 1867. Then Ballard sold the *Recorder* to R. Berry and the later formed a partnership with A. J. Alden, the editor and proprietor of the *Tribune*, and the two papers were consolidated under the name of the *Tribune and Recorder*.

### DU QUOIN PROGRESS

When Mr. Bowen retired from the firm of W. A. Ballard and Co., he purchased an office and commenced the publication of a democratic paper called the *Du Quoin Progress*.

The first issue was October 15, 1865. he continued editor and proprietor until his death in 1868. After that it was published for a short time by his brother, Frank Bowen. The office was afterwards sold and removed to Pinckneyville.

### THE DU QUOIN TRIBUNE

*The Du Quoin Tribune* was established by A. J. Alden, and the first number issued March 21st, 1867. It was an eight column folio, republican in politics. It was yet in its first volume when it was consolidated with the *Recorder*. The firm of Alden and Berry continued until November 9, 1870, when Alden's interest was purchased by J. T. Beem and C. C. Richards continued until February 10th, 1874, at which time Mr. Berry retired from the firm, and the remaining partners conducted the business until Mr. Richards disposed of his interest to John T. Beem, who then became sole owner, and continued until the office in which the business was conducted was razed to make room for the First Bank and Trust Co's new building in 1926.

Mr. John T. Beem became noted in this end of the state for the excellence of his work.

His daughter, Miss Della V. Beem, is now editing the "*Tribune Department*" in the *Du Quoin Evening Call*.

## LEADING BUSINESS HOUSES TRADE OF 1882

<b>GENERAL STORES:</b>	W. E. Brrkings, John Marshall Browning, Henry Horn, Morris B. Lawrence, Adam Miller, Pop & Co., G.S. Smith & Co. Mifflin & White
<b>GROCERIES:</b>	William Dudley, W. A. Housel, William Hickman, J. F. Humphrey Co. John Thorwell, Kingsbury & Johnson.
<b>CLOTHING:</b>	Joseph Solomon, Boston Clothing House.
<b>HARDWARE:</b>	George F. Blakeslee & Co., Don Onstott.
<b>DRY GOODS:</b>	Thomas J. Eddleman
<b>FURNITURE:</b>	W. R. Neighbors, Mrs. J. A. Palmer
<b>BOOTS &amp; SHOES:</b>	W. A. Smith & Co., Leonard Knetzger, Charles F. Siekman, Louis Striker.
<b>PHYSICIANS:</b>	W. J. Burgess, Dyer & Carr, Amos Tetrick, Edward Meyer, J. W. Renfro.
<b>DRUGGISTS:</b>	A. C. Brookings, A. T. Lemming & Co., White & Lehn.
<b>FARM IMPLEMENTS:</b>	W. B. Hall, John Schneider.
<b>JEWELERS:</b>	J. J. Higgins, W. E. Lintner.
<b>WESTERN BREWING CO.:</b>	Thomas Thompson, agent.
<b>SEWING MACHINES:</b>	C. D. Elstun, J. W. Whitlock
<b>NEWS PAPERS:</b>	Du Quoin Tribune, Du Quoin Press.
<b>MARBLE WORKS:</b>	John Sauerbier, R. F. Drake.
<b>FLOUR AND FEED:</b>	John McKinney.
<b>CIGARS &amp; TOBACCO:</b>	Henry F. Henke, Poe and Schile.
<b>MEAT MARKETS:</b>	Beck Bros., Thomas Briggs & Son, Freeman & Goel, Alfred Mills, John Kreher.
<b>STOVES &amp; FURNACES:</b>	Adam Meunch.
<b>BAKERIES AND RESTAURANTS:</b>	Samuel Eichenberger, Epheriam McElvain, Amos Tetrick, Joseph Bookstaver.
<b>PHOTOGRAPHERS:</b>	John C. Dopp, E. S. Wheatley.
<b>CONFECTIONER:</b>	John Lewis.
<b>SODA WATER FACTORY:</b>	Mrs. Mary Hayes.

<b>BILL POSTERS:</b>	John Hurt and Will Barrett.
<b>SHOE MAKERS:</b>	W. E. Dunn, A. Seliger.
<b>BLACKSMITH AND WAGON SHOPS:</b>	Adam Kern, J. Henry Willis, John Wheatley, Andy Tate, Yehling & Kraft.
<b>TAILOR:</b>	John G. Melroy.
<b>HARNESS MAKERS:</b>	Jacob Messmore, Wiley M. Bates.
<b>PIANOS AND ORGANS:</b>	Harry P. Scott.
<b>HOTELS:</b>	Du Quoin can boast of having one of the best hotels in Southern Illinois, the St. Nicholas, which is a fine brick structure located opposite the depot. It is nicely furnished and well kept by W. D. Storey. There are also two other hotels, the Shaffer House and the Gifford House.
<b>BARBER SHOPS:</b>	John Smith, Anton Reiss, Martin Smith.
<b>LIVERY STABLE:</b>	W. D. Ward and Brother.
<b>DENTIST:</b>	John J. Jennelle, Louis Betts.
<b>REAL ESTATE &amp; INSURANCE:</b>	C. F. Linzee, B. W. Pope, Wm. Mueller, H. P. Scott.
<b>POSTMASTER:</b>	Dr. I. M. Neely.



## Chapter XXI

# 18 November 6, 1934

### POTPOURRI ON NEWS PAPERS

The Du Quoin Palladium was a weekly publication begun and published for a short time by Mrs. Damon and her sons until its suspension in the rooms over R. E. Brown's present clothing store.

A significant undertaking in Du Quoin's journalistic field was the establishment of a weekly organ for Illinois Baptists which was launched on November 16, 1895, with the first issue of "The Baptist News," with a new and modern (at that time) printing plant located on East Main street in the rooms over the present Friedman Fashion Shop. Rev. Marion Teague purchased the plant and was largely instrumental as well in securing the salary of Dr. W. P. Throgmorton for a term of years to return to the state from Fort Smith Arkansas, and edit the paper, and experience by no means new to him. Dr. Throgmorton had at times for several years previous to that during pastorates at Benton, Mt. Vernon and other Illinois cities, published a similar paper known as the "Baptist Banner." The Baptist News continued for over seven years as a great power in the religious life of Southern Illinois being finally consolidated with a similar publication in St. Louis.

As in the case of *The Du Quoin Tribune* which, under Mr. John T. Beem and his daughter, Miss Della goes down in Du Quoin history as the leading newspaper of all the years, so Du Quoin's daily newspaper which has survived all other dailies for the past 40 years and stands out as the city's progressive daily, *The Du Quoin Evening Call*, was also launched by the late Major A. J. Alden, who is credited with starting more newspapers in Southern Illinois than any other individual. Somehow his infant newspapers had a faculty of surviving, though in the hands of others. John A. Wall of Mt. Vernon, another of Southern Illinois' leading newspaper men in those days as a writer, assisted Major Alden in getting out the daily for some months.

In the early years however, the two old newspaper war -horses---Alden and Wall---tired of the very strenuous duties of a daily publication, and Rev. Marion Teague owner of the publishing plant, assumed responsibility for the Evening Call, Dr. W. P. Throgmorton becoming editor. Dr. Throgmorton and one or two others edited the paper for only a short time each. Then Mr. Teague, himself, edited the paper and was its news reporter as well for several months until in 1901 when he sold the entire plant to the present editor, A. W. Essick, who, as well as publishing the Baptist News for Editor Throgmorton until it was suspended a short time later, became publisher and editor of the Du Quoin Evening Call in which position he has continued through the years. The entire plant has since been replaced by the most modern equipment for producing an up-to-date daily newspaper. November 2, 1934, the paper is marked as volume 40, number 1.

A great feature of the Call is the "Tribune Department" appearing twice each week, Mondays and Thursdays and edited by Miss Della V. Beem, daughter of the late lamented Editor John T. Beem.

### DU QUOIN BOTTLING CO.

Thomas and Edwin Hayes of Pennsylvania began the manufacture of Hayes Bros. Soda Water in a small way, in a building located on the corner of South Walnut and West Poplar street, under the firm name of Du Quoin Bottling Works.

Bottler with old-style cork fasteners were used. Not long ago one of the old-time bottles bearing the inscription, "Hayes Brothers," was unearthed. The output was very meager, all hand work and not much help outside of the families was employed.



The bottles were washed by using water and common lead shot, which was poured from one bottle to another and "shaken well before taking."

Only a few cases were made at a time and a two-horse team distributed the products to the nearby towns of Benton, Ashley, Pinckneyville, etc.

In 1875 the partnership was dissolved and the brother Edwin went to Murphysboro.

Thomas moved the plant to Reed and N. Chestnut street into a 20x50 two-story brick. One-half of the building was used as bottling shop and the other half for stable. As the business increased additions were made to the building. In 1884 the father died and the business was carried on by the mother, Mrs. Mary Hayes. The team was disposed of and later on her son, William R. Hayes delivered the products to home dealers in a push cart. After several years a one-horse express wagon was added and train service took care of out-of-town business. This continued until 1903 when William Henke, a brother of Mrs. Hayes and her son, W. R., bought the business from her and incorporated the Du Quoin Bottling Co.

Mr. Henke died in 1908 and W. R. Hayes became sole owner. The output was increased to supply the growing demand and in 1910 a new company was incorporated under the same name and the plant was moved to a new site on East Olive street, adjoining the Du Quoin Ice Plant operated by Harry Ross, Henry Ward, Jacob Naumer and others. A new line---the manufacture of ice cream---was added to the business. After a few years the entire business was consolidated with the Du Quoin Utility Co. When the Ill. Power and Light Co. absorbed the Du Quoin Utility Co. and Ice Plant, the Du Quoin Bottling Co. continued to operate as such until 1926 when it was taken over by the Midwest Dairy Products Co. which was incorporated for \$2,000,000.00 capital stock. Plants were bought and built in other cities until at present the holdings consist of forty plants in seven different states. W. R. Hayes' push cart and wagon have been superseded by four hundred auto trucks, and the concern now has more than 850 employees.

#### **PARTNERSHIP DISSOLUTION**

Notice is hereby given, that the partnership heretofore existing under the firm name and style of W. R. Schember & Co., is this day dissolved by mutual consent.

Mr. Frederick Tecklenburg will conduct the business, assume all liabilities of and collect all debts due the firm.

W. R. Schember.  
Fred Tecklenburg.  
Du Quoin, January 22, 1874.

#### **BUSINESS ANNOUNCEMENT**

(Partnerships are not all dissolved in the same way.)

Among the oddities in the smoke room of Clyde Fitch's---country house at North Coscob there is a notice of the dissolution of a partnership between two colored barbers. The notice, three feet square, is written in red ink on yellow paper. It occupieds a corner between tow crossed canoe paddles, and it reads:

"de Dissolution of co-partsnips heretofo resisting betwix  
Me and moze Jones in de barber porfession an heretofo  
dissolved. pussors Who O must pay to de subscriben Dem  
what de firm Os must call on Mones, as de firm is involved."  
N. Y. Sun.

#

## Chapter XXII

#19 November 7, 1934

The following communication will be of interest:

Lawrence, Kansas,  
October 16, 1934.

Charles H. Hatfield,  
Care of Du Quoin Evening Call,  
Du Quoin, Illinois

Dear Mr. Hatfield:---

I have been interested in the articles on the historical events about Du Quoin. I am interested on account of the fact that my father, Isaac Stevens Metcalf, was a civil engineer of some prominence, in New England in the 1840's. In 1850 he went to Illinois as a civil engineer during the construction of the Illinois Central Rail Road. He was invited to take charge of the construction of the second division of the Illinois Central, and built it from the Big Muddy river including the bridge. He expended more than one-half million dollars, completing the road in the summer of 1855. He turned in his books and vouchers to George B. McClelland then finance clerk in the Chicago office of the company, and afterwards General McClelland.

The chief engineer gave my father the letter stating that he had done the most work with the least money of the many division engineers of the 700 miles of road.

In the meantime he had invested in coal land in Perry county and laid out and named the town of Du Quoin and was for many years engaged in coal mining there, part of the time in partnership with Chester A. Keyes.

By the way, there is a man of some importance in Kansas City, Missouri, by the name of Chester A. Keyes. I am wondering if he is a relative of my father's old partner. At one time the name of the business was the Keyes and Metcalf Colliery.

I thought you might be interested in the incident of the laying out and naming of the town of Du Quoin. With kind regards, I am,

Very truly yours,

Wilder S. Metcalf.

## CHILDREN'S HOME

The Frizzell property (at east end of Main street) which was mentioned in a former article was later owned and occupied by S. B. Eaton and family, and in 1901 he donated two acres of land facing on Line street to the Du Quoin Children's Home and was an ardent supporter of the institution for many years.

It has been a great factor in the care of homeless children. The inmates are given all the school and church privileges that are accorded to other children of same age, and the physical as well as mental welfare is zealously guarded by those who have been in charge. All is being done for the children that will contribute to the making of honorable and upright citizens in the years to come.

We have not been able to secure as much data as we would like but a visit to the Home will convince anyone that much care is being exercised to see that the children are being properly taken care of.

## ARTIFICIAL ICE

In 1894, Warren E. Kingsbury and George Blakeslee erected a plant for the manufacture of ice, adjoining the Blakeslee Mfg. Co. on West North and Chestnut streets. It was a new method of freezing the ice in large vats or compartments, of several tons at one time and then cutting it into suitable sized cakes for the trade. It was well built and fully equipped but did not prove a financial success and was discontinued. The massive building was moved to North Linden street and remodeled into an apartment house.

In 1896, Mr. Valentine Pflanz purchased ten acres of ground from Lyman Jackson situated northwest of the city, near the old fair grounds and erected a ten-ton daily capacity plant of one hundred pound tank cans. The plant had been in successful operation in Murphysboro and was sold to make more room for a larger capacity.

It was a complete plant, up-to-date in its day and time. A practical engineer from St. Louis had charge of the work of rebuilding. Water was supplied from wells and a pond and it required about two hundred and fifty barrels a day for all purposes.

In the spring of 1897 the first consignment of artificial ice was made, and ten one-hundred -pound cakes of it were brought to West Main street and sold at auction.

Frank Schleper, Sr., purchased the first 100-pound block for \$5.00 and the others readily sold to different parties at prices ranging from \$1.00 to \$3.00. Mr. George Pflanz was in charge as superintendent of the plant at that time. Mr. Jacob Naumer was superintendent from 1898 till 1901.

Competition from outside of the city was very keen the price of ice being cut to ten cents a hundred, and other items of expense were such that after a few years, in 1901. (?) the enterprise was abandoned.

In 1902 a new enterprise was undertaken by Harry E. Ross, Henry Ward and Jacob Naumer. A new and more modern ice plant was installed in a building moved on the site of the present Illinois Light and Power plant on Olive street, and the business of manufacturing artificial ice and generating electricity and furnishing water for the city was carried on successfully for a number of years until the combined business was taken over the Illinois Power and Light Corporation with office at Main street.

## ST. JOHNS

St. Johns is situated one mile north of the Du Quoin depot, on the line of the Illinois Central railroad. It was laid out as a village by Ashley and Brother, and was surveyed and platted by T. E. Willis, county surveyor, September 13th, 1856.

In 1857 it voted on incorporation and it carried unanimously. The first trustees elected June 6th, 1857 were: John Wheatley, A. W. Nason, Robert Knox, C. B. Messerole and Charles Leavenworth; Police Magistrate, Elisha Nason.

The Illinois Central Iron and Coal Mining Co. was organized March 3d, 1857. The capital stock was \$56,000 divided into 560 shares, incorporated for 30 years.

This company began mining coal in 1857. The vein was worked by digging a slope instead of sinking a shaft.

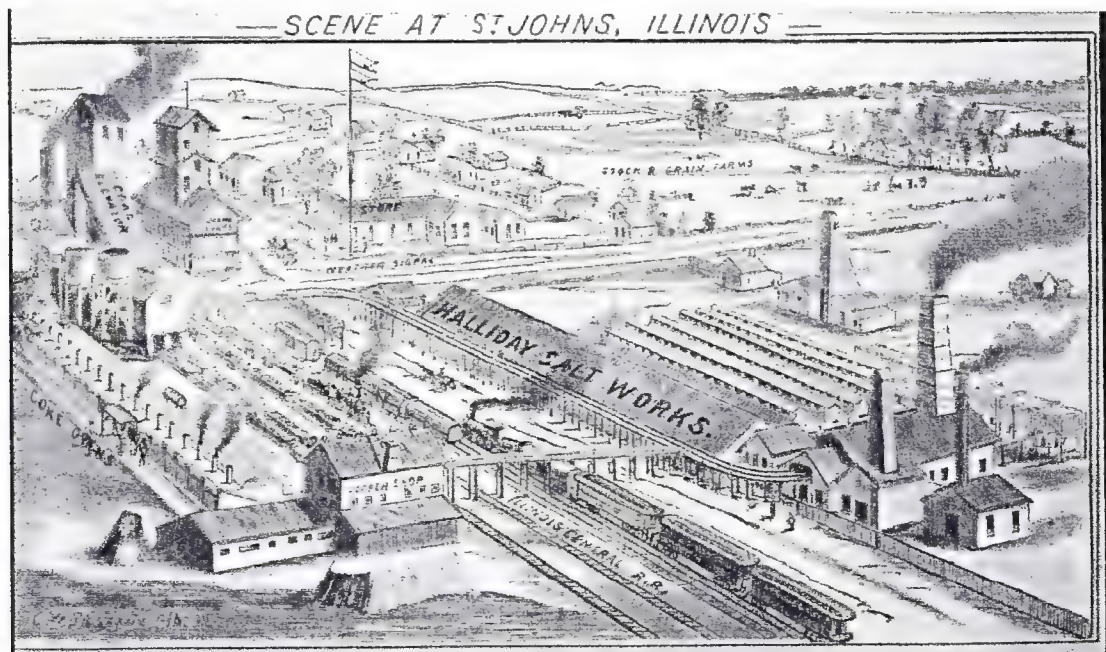
In 1867, W. P. Halliday of Cairo purchased all of the stock of the company and assumed control.

In the spring of 1873 a new slope was sunk, a mile and a quarter east. The vein was of superior quality and varied in thickness from seven to ten feet.

In 1870, while boring to examine the lower coal strata a salt well was struck at 940 feet. Buildings for the manufacture of salt were completed ready for use, in November 1873.

The mining of coal and manufacture of salt was continued for a quarter of a century. During those years it was a valuable asset to Du Quoin's business.

In 1899 the enterprise was abandoned. it is not at this writing incorporated. It may again "come into its own" if the oil well now being drilled strikes a "gusher."



## Chapter XXIII

#20 November 9, 1934

In the summer and fall of 1934 Du Quoin was building and repairing walks in different sections of the city with brick taken from the archway of the "slope" erected in 1873 and abandoned in 1899, making the brick 61 years in service, and then taken out to be "trodden under the foot of man." Why will not someone give us a write up on the mine, salt works, farm, store ice house, barracks, hermit cottage, swimming hole and skating pond?

### GLEANINGS FROM CITY RECORDS

July 21, 1893---In consideration of three hundred (\$300.00) dollars, MRS. N. E. Keyes and son Chester A. Keyes made quit claim deed for city park.

Artisan well located on Lots 8 & 9 in Illinois Central Railroad addition to reach St. Peter's sand rock, not to exceed 600 feet. Expense to date, \$1,000.00. September 5, well drilled 465 feet and abandoned.

1894---Council met weekly until January 5th. Ordinance changing meeting time to first Friday after first Monday in each month.

1895---C. L. Downey Telephone exchange ordinance adopted August 2nd.

February 21, 1896---Smallpox epidemic. March 6, James H. Harvey mayor pro tem. Mayor Dr. D. W. Dunn taken to smallpox hospital. May 14, curfew ordinance passed.

1897---City ordinances revised.

1898---Establishing of city court defeated. Telephone franchise was granted to Southern Illinois Telephone Co. on tie vote.

1899---Riveted spiral steel pipe to be used for water mains. Changed location of water tower from city park to lot No. 22 block I Horn's addition. later, water system a failure. Tower torn down and pumping machinery disposed of.

1902---Electric light plant franchised granted to H. E. Ross and associates.

1905---City now has five wards, ten aldermen.

August 12, 1909---City court established. Judge, B. W. Pope; clerk, Harry Barrett. October 2, first session held.

March 17, 1916---Directors of the Carnegie Library appointed by Mayor E. F.; Knauer; L. S. Smith, Rev. C. J. Eschmann, S. B. Eaton, Lewis Croessmann, Carl Ritter, M. C. Cook, MRS. Harriet Winters, MRS. Elizabeth Skinner, MRS. W. P. Montgomery.

April 1918---Commission form of government adopted.

September 1921---Commission form of government closed.

### ADDITIONAL ITEMS

The Illinois Central Railroad had a turntable in the north end of the road yard, and engines from the road would run in on the turntable and the men in charge would push on the levers and "change ends" with the engine to be ready to start on the return trip. There were about six engine stalls in the round house.

When the short line was built, the round house and turntable were discontinued and a house was built on South Oak street, and the wye was put into service. The water tanks were located at Cherry Lake and the road and switch engines went out there to get their water supply. The coal chutes were at St. Johns, Union mine, Star mine, Browning mine, and other places along the road. Time has changed many of these things.

The bus line was in operation for years from Du Quoin to Benton, it was an omnibus and carried express baggage, mail and "female" and made daily trips, stopping along the route at Crittenden, (?) Prosperity, Ewing, and other little hamlets, with a relay of teams at different points.

Of the many merchants we have been identified with the business interest of our city, they enjoy the distinction of having carried on for the longest period. P. V. Pope, sixty-five years; Fred VanKeuren, fifty-seven years; R. E. Brown, forty-nine years.

The first two auto trucks to be used for delivering merchandise for retail stores were brought in by Harry Barrett and operated by his son, W. A. Barrett under the firm name of the Du Quoin Merchandise Service in November 1915.

#### **CORRECTION**

October 2-----The date of the District Fair Association should be 1871-72 -73.

October 3-----The date on the ----column of city officers should read 1900 instead of 1890.

October 9-----Near the bottom of the column should read Tijou instead of Tigon.

October 12---The location of the OLDENDORPH Wagon Shop should have been put  
farther south on Oak street.

Middle of the second column should read "grandmother of MRS. Ward, wife of former Postmaster H. B. War.

October 24--Harry Pyle says there was no basement in the Du Quoin public school building, and that Charles Ricks, the Janitor, got (?) coal from a shed on the north side of the lot. Correct. He also said that the Janitor cut the switches to chastise the unruly.

In the list of aldermen for the year 1903, F. M. Yehling should be John Yehling.

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## Chapter XXIV

# 21 November 14, 1934

### BURIAL CUSTOMS

The Turks, perhaps were the first people to use ornamental burying grounds such as we call cemeteries, but as to when this custom was first adopted in the land of the crescent no one seems to know. The earlier Jews buried their dead in the earth. That method being without doubt the most ancient burial mode known to men. The very earliest Egyptian seems to have understood the art of embalming and to have practiced it from time out of memory.

The ancient Greeks and Romans cremated the body, the ashes only receiving sepulchre, except in case of illustrious warriors, statesmen etc. These latter being buried unburned as a special mark of favor. Some ancient tribes preserved only parts of the body and burned or buried the remainder. The parts retained and preserved, dried or in liquid, varied according to the tribal notions. With some it was the heart that was thought to be too sacred for cremation or burial.

The Tartars of 2,000 years ago preserved only the thumb and nails of their dead.

### IOOF CEMETERY The Silent City

"There's a city vast, yet voiceless  
growing over street on street;  
Whither friends with friends e'er  
meeting, ever meeting never greet.  
And where rivals fierce and benignant  
calm and silent mutely meet  
Here each keeps his well ceiled dwelling  
fearing not of quarterday;  
Here no land lord duns the tenant,  
And no tenant moves away;  
Dwelling ever unevicted,  
dwelling on from May to May  
Thus two cities grow forever,  
parted by a narrow tide,  
This the shadow, that the substance  
growing by each other's side  
Gliding one into the other, and  
forever more shall glide."

Hope Lodge No. 232 Independent Order of Odd Fellows was organized on May 21, 1857. The cemetery grounds was purchased from John Pyle in 1860. He was not dealing with "secret orders" so a small cash payment was made and the deed was issued to Thomas Briggs who held it until 1863 when it became the property of the Lodge. Dedicatory services were held June 19, 1861, George W. Wall being principal speaker.

The grounds have been enlarged since the purchase of the site.

A fund is being established for the perpetual care and upkeep of all deeded lots.

With proper cooperation this "Silent City" of the dead can be made a beautiful and fitting resting place for those "which we have loved since, and lost awhile."

"All that tread the globe, are but a handful to the tribes  
That slumber in its bosom. Take the wings

Of morning, and the Baron deserts fierce  
Or lose thyself in the continuous woods  
Where rolls the Oregon and hears no sound  
Save its own dashings--yet--the dead are there;  
And millions in these solitudes, since first  
The flight of years began have laid them down.  
In their last sleep; the dead reign there along.  
So live, that when thy summons comes to join  
The innumerable caravan that moves  
To the pale realms of shade, where each shall take  
His chamber in the silent hills of death,  
thou go not like the quarry-slave at night,  
scourged to his dungeon, but sustained and soothed  
By an unfaltering trust, approach thy grave  
Like one who wraps the drapery of his couch  
About, and lies down to pleasant dreams"

We have endeavored with all diligence and carefulness, to make the best of the material at our command. The facts were gathered from many sources, and depend largely, not on exact written records but on the uncertain and conflicting recollections of different individuals!

We have tried to gather the facts likely to be of most interest to the present readers, and of greatest importance to coming generations. If the readers will take into consideration the difficulties of the task we feel assured of a favorable verdict on our undertaking.--C. H.H.

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THE END



